UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ
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Deputy PM's husband arrested

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27 Ukrainians die aboard sunken Russian sub

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Russian bishops reject autonomy for Ukrainian Church

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ictoria Cross winner given posthumous tribute

lip Konowal honoured n Ottawa and Ukraine

ro Levytsky
ports from the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada, The Globe and e Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the Na- Council of Veteran Associations of Canada.

a's only Ukrainian-born Victoria Cross winner was honoured usly in dual ceremonies in Ottawa and his birth-place of Kutkiw, 21.

World War hero, Corporal Filip Konowal received the VC for his the Battle for Hill 70 near Lens, France, in 1917. King George V ly awarded the British Empire's highest decoration to Cpl. l after the soldier single-handedly destroyed two machine-gun fore being severely wounded.

ily, winners of the Victoria Cross would retire from active com- le corporal (who was later promoted to Sergeant) was also to Vimy Ridge.

35 people attended the ceremony in Ottawa's Bytown Museum n Konowal was awarded the National Council of Veteran ion's (NCVA) Order of Merit.

wal's granddaughter, Claudette Wright of Orleans, ON, accepted d on behalf of the family at a display in the museum honouring l.

y's presentation of the plaque by the National Council of Veteran ions of Canada with the help of the Ukrainian Canadian Profes- nd Business Association commemorates Filip Konowal's story in orable manner," said Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada, Dr. Yuri k.

same day in Ukraine's Kutkiw, Khmelnitsky Region, home of nowal, a similar ceremony of the unveiling of a memorial by a n sculptor and a plaque was attended by Ukrainian local authori- adian Embassy officials and other Canadian guests.

e simultaneous events certify that Mr. Konowal's tremendous tion as a Ukrainian Canadian and as a member of the Canadian itary Force have not been forgotten in Canada and Ukraine," he

members of the Embassy staff present at the ceremony were der Shemet, Military Attache and Taras Malyshevskyi, Second Secretary (Cultural, Information and Public Relations).

Also attending were: Marta Wynnyckyj, President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Ottawa Branch; Oksana Yarosh, President of the Ottawa Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association; Ron Sorobey, Past President of the Ottawa UCPBA and author of a biography of Konowal; John Gregorovich, Chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association; Modest Cmoc, Head of the UCC's Information Bureau in Ottawa; Ukrainian Canadian Brigadier Generals Isador Popowych and Joseph Romanow, other members of the Ukrainian community and representatives of the Governor General's Foot Guards.

In Kutkiw, a life size bust of Konowal, prepared by Lviv sculptor, Petro Kulyk, and a trilingual plaque, which recalls this Ukrainian Canadian war hero's courage under fire, were unveiled.

Representatives of Canada's Embassy to Ukraine were on hand to plant a maple tree in the village's square.

Cont. on P. 3

ication Mail Registration
paid at Edmonton, Alberta.

PHOTO — DAUPHIN HERALD

Cossacks lead the way

Canada's National Riding and Dancing Cossacks of Dauphin lead the way during the parade for the 35th annual Canada's Ukrainian National Festival, which was held in Dauphin, August 4-6. For more see page 10 of this issue.

Кучма за новий адміністративно–територіяльний устрій України

Сергій Руденко

(Радіо «Свобода»)—Указом президента Леоніда Кучми в Україні утворено комісію з питань адміністративно–територіяльного устрою зі статусом консультативно–дорадчого органу при главі держави. Відповідно до документу, новоутворення, головою якою доручено бути керівникові президентської адміністрації Володимирові Литвину, займатиметься узагальненням та аналізом пропозицій щодо змін у системі адміністративно–територіяльного устрою України. Іншими словами, йдеться про початок роботи над новою схемою поділу держави та перерозподілу владних повноважень.

Ще не встигли вщухнути у сусідній Росії політичні пристрасті навколо запропонованої Президентом Путіним концепції нового адміністративно–територіяльного поділу держави, як ініціятиву свого колеги підхопив Леонід Кучма. На відміну від конкретного пляну полковника КДБ, підписаний главою української держави документ має суто декляративний характер. Принаймні, у ньому відсутні будь–які цифри, схеми та наукове обґрунтування.

Поки що, як мовиться у документі, йдеться про узагальнення та аналіз пропозицій щодо внесення змін у систему адміністративно–територіяльного поділу держави, підготовку відповідних нормативно–правових актів та вивчення зарубіжного досвіду. Щоправда, президентський указ містить–таки один достатньо конкретний натяк на можливе укріплення сільських територіяльних громад.

Власне, на цьому розпочинається і цим закінчується конкретика цього документа. Все інше тепер залежатиме від новоутвореної комісії на чолі із Володимиром Литвином, якій пропонується стати автором нової концепції адміністративно–територіяльного поділу держави. Проте, яким буде зміст та характер цього документу, здається, поки що не знає ще ніхто – навіть сам президент.

Його колега – Володимир Путін, наприклад, збирається перекроїти Росію за схемою поділу держави на військові округи. Сім військових округів – сім губерній. Леонід Кучма навряд чи кинеться сліпо наслідувати свого російського колегу і створювати військово–територіяльні угруповання. Зрештою, Україна на відміну від Росії унітарна держава, а не федерація і відвертого нагляду людей у погонах за кожним окремішнім її регіоном поки що не потребує.

Звісно, успадковану, українською державою від радянських часів систему адміністративно–територіяльного поділу слід переглянути і, можливо, модернізувати. Проте, яким чином це слід зробити – питання залишається відкритим для дискусії.

До речі, наприкінці минулого місяця, 27 липня експерт цільової групи із імплементації Угоди про партнерство та співробітництво між Україною

Прод. на ст. 2

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Скандал довкола довиборів до ВР Крим

Володимир Притула

(Радіо «Свобода»)—В Криму розгоряється скандал довкола результатів довиборів до Верховної Ради автономії в одному із симферопольських виборчих округів. Тут перемогла міністр фінансів Криму Людмила Денисова, однак окружна виборча комісія, де переважають комуністи, визнала підсумки виборів нечинними.

Визнати вибори нечинними у зв'язку з тим, що в перебігу голосування і під час підрахунку голосів мали місце порушення закону, які вплинули на результати виборів. Таке рішення учора пізно ввечері ухвалила виборча комісія округу №39 у Симферополі, де в неділю пройшли довибори депутата Верховної Ради Автономної Республіки Крим. Там, як ми вже повідомляли, переконливо перемогла член уряду Сергія Куницина, безпартійна Людмила Денисова. Ставленик Леоніда Грача комуніст Володимир Казарін ганебно програв, однак, комуністи, які мають більшість в окружній комісії не хочуть погодитися із цим.

Сама Людмила Денисова в інтерв'ю для радіо «Свобода» назвала таке рішення ... розправою і відголоском протистояння ... Грача і Сергія Куницина. Вона не ... входить до команди останнього, й ... свого обрання депутатом посла... прем'єра у місцевому парляменті. ... Денисова каже, що тиск на ... переслідування прокуратурою, спроби ... реєстрації кандидатом у депутати і ... визнання виборів недійсними – це ... ланцюга беззаконь. При цьому Людмила ... не називає імені Леоніда Грача, але дає ... що без його відома подібне не стало... Голова Центральної виборчої комісії ... Іван Поляков каже, що члени окр... керувалися більше емоціями і своїми ... пристрастями, а не нормами закону. ... на місцевому телеканалі, він заявив, що ... окружної комісії – не остато... Центрвиборчком може його переглян... що Людмила Денисова не вирішить ... опротестовуватиме рішення окружком... каже, що вважає себе переможцем. За ... комуністи програли у будь–якому ...

Про проблеми кримських татар позицію владних структур Крим

Володимир Притула

(Радіо «Свобода»)—В Криму триває підготовка до другого засідання Ради представників кримськотатарського народу при Президентові України, що має відбутися за участі глави держави. Поки не відома точна дата цього заходу, однак кримські татари покладають на нього великі сподівання з огляду на те, що кримська влада ставиться до проблем репатріянтів неоднозначно.

Прем'єр–міністр Криму Сергій Куницин пропонує винести питання про бюджетне фінансування програми облаштування раніше депортованих осіб на 2001 рік на засідання Ради представників кримськотатарського народу при Президентові України. На останній зустрічі з членами цієї Ради глава кримського уряду повідомив, що після попереднього розгляду в Кабінеті Міністрів України, початкова сума фінансування облаштування репатріянтів, запропонована у проєкті бюджету на наступний рік, зменшилася із 49 до 18 мілн. грн. Цей стан речей Сергій Куницин назвав ненормальним і таким, що вимагає особистого втручання Президента.

Як повідомив кореспондента радіо «Свобода» голова Ради представників, лідер Меджлісу кримськотатарського народу Мустафа Джемілев, поки що не визначено дату цього засідання, зараз триває підготовка і визначення кола питання, що там розглядатимуться. Втім, відомо, що члени Ради і Президент обмежаться обговоренням соціяльно–економічних проблем. Політичні ж питання офіційно не виноситимуться, хоча це не означає, що вони не заторкуватимуться. Не дарма ж так активізувався Леонід Грач та його соратники–комуністи. Але про це дещо пізніше.

Кримські татари покладають на 2–ге засідання Ради представників кримськотатарського народу при Президентові України великі спо... Насамперед, вони очікують реальних кр... розв'язанні земельної проблеми. Зараз б... репатріянтів, навіть якщо вони мешкають ... не можуть отримати земельний пай. С... усього, члени Ради представників кримськ... ського народу наполягатимуть на перед... земель у Криму. Гострою залишається пр... соціяльного облаштування кримськотат... селищ, створення для репатріянтів робоч... задоволення їхніх культурних та освітніх ... Мустафа Джемілев каже, що підніме т... мисного розпалювання міжнаціональних ... деякими кримськими засобами масової ін... і деякими представниками кримської ... Обізвавши останніх «шовіністичною нак... лідер Меджлісу викликав на себе вогонь ... з боку місцевих комуністів та їхнього ... Леоніда Грача.

Кримський спікер навіть зробив спо... заяву, звинувативши Мустафу Джемілева ... національних почуттів російського на... Криму. Леонід Грач також різко кр... представника Президента України в ... Анатолія Корнійчука за підписання уг... ним і Мустафою Джемілевим про заход... алізації Програми облаштування в Криму ... депортованих кримських татар. У ... вважають, що мета лідера комуністів – ... заплановане засідання Ради представник... ськотатарського народу при Президентов... На думку Мустафи Джемілева, остан... засвідчили, що кримськотатарські проблем... вирішувати і без голови Верховної Ради ... Леоніда Грача, про діяльність якого ... говорити як про саботаж зусиль Президен... із стабілізації етнополітичної ситуації в ...

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Кучма за новий адміністратив... територіяльний устрій Україн...

Прод. із ст. 1

та Европейським Союзом Українсько–европейського ... таційного центру з питань законодавства (UEPLAC) Во... Забігайло заявив, що одним із пріоритетних завдань К... шляху до ЕС є ухвалення закону «Про адміністра... територіяльний устрій України». Втім, стверджувати, що ... президентом Кучмою вищеназваного указу спричинене ... бажанням виконати умови експертів Европейського ... очевидно, не слід.

В Україні сьогодні 24 області, одна автономна республ... районів, 425 міст та 915 селищ міського типу. Кожн... область та район вже мають чітко визначені правов... центром та своїми сусідами. Поділ території України вже зм... між собою і потужні фінансово–промислові угруповання.

Тепер з легкої президентської руки дано старт перер... вже встановлених і сталих політичних та економічних ... реґіонах. Яким будуть його наслідки, сьогодні ніхто не на... спрогнозувати. А шкода, бо поруч із традиційними ... України лініями – Схід–Захід – може виникнути ще кілька ... розподілів, що матимуть уже не ідеологічне, а ... забарвлення.

onowal given posthumous tribute

from P. 1

event was organized by Branch 360 of The Royal n Legion, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Civil Liberties Association and the Ukrai- nadian community.

little-known story of Filip Konowal is a fasci- part of our military heritage," said Cliff rton, Chief Executive Officer of the War Amps hairman of the NCVA in a press release issued the ceremony.

exhibit recounts his life from arriving in Canada before World War I, to joining Ottawa's 77th on, to winning the VC. His first wife, Anna, to death [in the Soviet-engineered Famine-geno- 1933] and his only daughter had disappeared Soviet torture camps. He remarried a widow, Leduc-Auger, who had two children, and lived until his death.

onowal had a troubled rehabilitation due to se- nd wounds suffered during the war, eventually ob in a special janitorial position in the House mmons," Chadderton continued.

article in Canadian Military History, Sorobey More than most people's, Filip Konowal's life mplex mixture of hope, frustration, disappoint- nd glory. On an August day in 1917, this corpo- Ottawa proved to be one of the world's brav- . In peacetime, faith, courage and devotion help this forgotten hero overcome tragedy and al loss until he became once again the recipient steem that he earned as a serving soldier."

ts, who was 19 when her grandfather died in was aware of his Victoria Cross, but said he one to brag about his heroics.

was a very humble man. He never talked about and I didn't ask," she told Globe and Mail Re- Daniel McHardie.

story, which appeared in the August 21 issue Globe and Mail, McHardie wrote that Konowal mbered by family and historians as a modest, ordinary man, who for years served as a custodian in Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King's office.

Filip Konowal. (The portrait was done after he had been promoted to sergeant.)

One day, as he was doing his janitorial duties in parliament, Mackenzie King noticed the VC ribbons that Konowal wore on his cleaning smock. The prime minister learned about his background and immediately had Konowal transferred to the Prime Minister's Office, where he worked as a special custodian until his death at the age of 72.

h Ukrainian Holocaust survivor nominated

News)Ukrainian News has ed the 15th Ukrainian Holo- survivor nominated to be the 55 that are to be honoured e Minister Jean Chretien at al ceremony on Parliament t. 27 since the last issue of in News went to press, July

St. Catherines's resident wryluk.

brings the total number of an nominees identified by an News to 15.

yluk was nominated by his er Nadia Metulynsky of

yluk was born in Ukraine on 923. Driven from his home- ause of the invasion of the n army, he was sent to a August 1943 and held there transfer to Dachau on 3. His identification num- re #170 for the former and for the latter.

Hawryluk was released from Dachau on April 29, 1945, just a few days before the end of the war.

After his release, he stayed in a displaced persons camp until 1949 when he moved to Belgium. There he worked in the coal mines. On Oct. 17, 1958 he arrived in Canada.

He adopted two children — Metlulynsky and her brother.

"My father believes that people should be aware of their heritage, and took steps to ensure that we spoke, read and wrote Ukrainian. He is very proud of his Ukrainian culture and his children learned Ukrainian dancing and to play the bandura, a Ukrainian instrument," write Metulynsky in her application.

He encouraged me to join a bandura group in St. Catharines, Ontario, and drove me everywhere to concerts, including Ontario Place, where we proudly displayed our Ukrainian Heritage.

"He also became a very active member of his church and ODUM, a Ukrainian youth organization. Eager to pass on his love for things Ukrainian, he worked tirelessly to ensure Canadian Ukrainian children had a venue in which to get to know each other as well as learn about their heritage. In London Ontario there is a Ukrainian resort that holds camps for Ukrainians every summer. My father was a founding member.

The campaign to nominate Ukrainian Holocaust survivors was initiated by the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association in response to a request by the Toronto-based Canadian Society of Yad Vashem for the names of non-Jewish Holocaust survivors.

Nominations were closed July 31.

mostiyna Ukrayina picket Procurator's office

ro Economist)—Members of the youth party Samostiyna Ukrayina, rainian Republican party and Narodny Rukh Ukrayiny picketed the General Procurator's office Aug. 16.

ntor on keeping human rights in Ukraine according to interna- egislation and improving the conditions in the state jails," stated g head of Samostiyna Ukrayina, Natalka Nemchynova.

ndr Bashuk the head of Samostiyna Ukrayina is currently under r his involvement in occupying the Communist Party offices in

announced a hunger strike Aug. 7 due to unfair imprisonment satisfactory conditions in the state holding cells.

ubscriptions to rise due to printing, postal increases

n News has had to bear with several increases in both the printing mostly to a rise in newsprint prices), and postal rates during the ast years. As a result we have to raise our subscription rates to per year. The rate for a two-year subscription will be $65.00. The es come into effect September 1.

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Юліян Нагнибіда, голова — *о. Сергій Гарагуц, духовний дорадник*
Радомир Білаш, секретар

Чи існують паралелі між українськими та російськими олігархами?

Сергій Руденко

(Радіо «Свобода»)—Порівнювати політичні процеси в Україні і Росії та вплив на них окремих осіб є надто популярним серед вітчизняних аналітиків та політологів. Якщо раніше вони вишукували серед владного істеблішменту власних Жириновського, Зюганова та Лебедя, то тепер уже мова ведеться про українських Березовського та Гусинського. Проте паралелі із російською системою стосунків окремих бізнесменів та фінансово–промислових груп із політичною елітою, які у Києві сьогодні намагаються спроєктувати на українську дійсність, є не дуже вдалими.

Поняття – «клан» та «олігархи» в українській політичній лексиці достатньо активно почали використовувати після відставки Павла Лазаренка із посади прем'єр–міністра. Саме із образом Павла Івановича й асоціювалося втілення «американської мрії» по–українськи. Створена колишнім керівником Кабінету міністрів, а нині каліфорнійським в'язнем, система особливих взаємин між урядом та комерційними структурами стала підмурівком для української олігархократії.

Лазаренка можна вважати першим офіційно визнаним на Печерських пагорбах олігархом «у законі», який фінансову силу здобув за рахунок лобіювання на найвищому рівні інтересів окремих комерційних структур. Простіше кажучи, все вкладалося у формулу: від влади до грошей.

Подібна схема утворення в Україні політично–фінансових угруповань, яких називають кланами, а їхніх лідерів – олігархами, використовується найчастіше. Вітчизняні лідери бізнесу є продуктом влади. Їхня сила залежить найперше від їхньої дотичності до Президента, прем'єра чи до керівництва Верховної Ради. Українські є слабкими та залежними від влади більше, аніж їхні російські колеги.

Скажімо, той же Березовський на Росії можуть домогтися від Генеральної прокуратури Російської Федерації відмінити санкції на арешт, поглузувавши при цьому із Путіна. При цьому при обопільній вигоді перший, так і другий ладні виступати фронтом проти влади. Чи можна сказати, хоча б щось подібне в Україні?

Навряд чи. Тому що політично–фінансові угруповання усвідомлюють, що почнуть публічного виступу проти Леоніда Кучми, скажімо, на захист опального колеги, то може мати печальний фінал. Тримаючи руками достатньо сильну бюрократичну машину українська влада цілком спокійно «завалити» будь–який бізнес. В Росії продемонстрували нещодавні події, плюс Гусинським, зробити це складніше.

Як це не дивно, на лаври Березовського, Гусинського сьогодні в Україні не претендувати лише Павло Лазаренко, хіба що у разі, якщо б він добровільно до Генеральної прокуратури і не мав у Швейцарії. Інших же гігантів українського бізнесу, про могутність яких ходять порівнювати із Павлом Івановичем, а із їхніми північно–східними колегами незручно.

Карликовість вітчизняних олігархів з боку, з із іншого – міцний бюрократичний поліцейський апарат поки що нагадує невдалу копію відносин російських олігархів і влади.

Смертність на виробництві зросла в 10 областях

(«День»)—В Україні на виробництві за сім місяців цього року загинуло 763 людини. Це на 12 чоловік менше, ніж за аналогічний період минулого року, повідомляє Інтерфакс–Україна з посиланням на Інформаційний центр з питань охорони праці Держдепартаменту з нагляду за охороною праці.

Найвищий рівень смертельного травматизму знайдено в Донецькій та Луганській областях (відповідно 159 і 143 працівники). У Дніпропетровській області кількість жертв травматизму становила 58 чоловік, у Київській – 49, Одеській області – 39, у Криму, Запорізькій та Харківській – по 28, у Хер... області зафіксовано 22 нещасних випадки з летальними наслідками. У 10 областях зростання смертельного травматизму. Найризикованішою для життя залишається вугільна промисловість, де за... вже 229 чоловік (минулого року – ...), сфері АПК загинуло 176 чоловік, ... будівництві – 57, невиробничій сфері – ..., металургії – 42, на транспорті – 41, по... у Держдепартаменті з нагляду за охороною...

У Луганську убитий працівник прокуратури

(«День»)—15 серпня у своїй квартирі було вбито працівника Луганської обласної прокуратури. Фахівці засвідчили, що жертві нанесли 8 ножових ран. Резонансний злочин було розкрито на наступний день і вбивцю знайдено.

Однак прокуратура та міське управління внутрішніх справ Луганська відмовляються коментувати даний злочин і обнародувати наявні версії, посилаючись на складність слідства. Єдине, чим поділився з журналістами начальник управління внутрішніх справ міста Геннадій Пушкарьов, – у загиблого не було причин для ... його життя.

Як вдалося дізнатися кореспонденту ... неофіційних джерел, загиблий очолював ... кадрів обласної прокуратури, а його ... став громадянин Йорданії.

Виявили тіло випадково: сусіди побачили, що валив з вікна квартири, і ... пожежників. Вина підозрюваного яка ... і речовий доказ його злочину – ... залучено до слідчих матеріялів.

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Боротьба з тероризмом на Рівненщині у розпа...

Володимир Конєв

(«День»)—Виявляється, що тероризм практикується ... в політичній боротьбі, але й може бути формою ... зведення рахунків.

Про це свідчить інформація, котру оприлюднено Рівненським обласним управлінням СБУ.

Останнім часом його працівники розслідували два ... загрози здійснити теракти.

В одному з них невідомий погрожував убити депутата ... ради, що чимось не сподобався йому, а в іншому ... влаштувати справжню різанину серед мешканців, ... декілька років тому з радіяційно забруднених територій.

Служба безпеки вельми серйозно поставилася до ... на цей раз вдалося виявити автора листів. Ним виявився ... області пенсіонер К., 1941 року народження.

Розсилання листів із погрозами виявилося далеко не ... подібним випадком у біографії «активного» пенсіонера. ... йому висунуто звинувачення за двома статтями Кар...

З огляду на події в Москві, активність ... контррозвідників виглядає дуже доречною, бо від загрози ... до його проведення – не така вже й велика дистанція.

eputy PM's husband arrested

liya Tymoshenko calls action "political revenge"

RL)—Deputy Prosecutor-General Mykola said on August 21 that the authorities have Valeriy Falkovych, deputy head of Ukraine's Energy Systems, and Oleksandr Tymoshenko, ber of the Unified Energy Systems Board, reported.

shenko is the husband of Deputy Prime Minis- ya Tymoshenko, who previously headed Unified Energy Systems.

ovych and Tymoshenko are accused of embez- 3800,000 in scrap metal exports to Asian coun- addition, Falkovych is accused of misappro- some 3 billion hryvni (US$550 million) by documents to illegally bring Russian gas into and selling it to a British company.

ya Tymoshenko told Interfax on August 21 that band's arrest is an act of "political revenge" herself for seeking to curb shady operations and sion in Ukraine's fuel and energy sector.

estimates that her efforts have reduced the vol- deals in the shadow economy by some $5 bil- vni (US$920 million) annually.

rally, the companies that worked in the shadow gy and obtained huge profits have exerted po- fluence on officials at all levels to destroy...my l authority in order to bring back the entire , corrupt system to the fuel and energy sector," mented.

oshenko said the charges against her husband endless, adding that all losses in the scrap metal case, in which her husband is alleged to have lled embezzlement, were fully repaid in 1997.

ollowing day Tymoshenko told journalists that l task force searched the offices of Ukraine's

Deputy Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko

Unified Energy Systems the previous day and "simply tormented the employees" by tying their hands and forcing them to lie down.

She said the action resembled the political repression measures in the USSR in the 1930s. She added that she, too, may be arrested in connection with her husband's case.

"I will defend myself with all possible means that are envisaged in the legislation in force," she noted. She added that the rest of her family is "secure" and "out of the reach" of those whom she suspects of taking revenge against her.

7 Ukrainians die aboard sunken Russian sub

tern Economist/RFE/RL/UkrNews)—Twenty seven Ukrainians, 10 were living in Ukraine, were among the 118 sailors who died in ken Russia nuclear submarine, the Kursk, reports the Eastern Econo-

Ukrainian government has announced it will help the families of Ukrainian sailors financially.

August 21 — nine days after the submarine first sank 108 metres the Barents Sea, north of Murmansk Russia — Norwegian search determined that there was no chance of finding any survivors.

Norwegian-led team, which also included British divers, opened sel's inner hatch and found it flooded.

handling of the submarine disaster put the government of Russian ent Vladimir Putin under heavy criticism — both in Russia and d.

refused to interrupt his vacation in Crimea, didn't make any offi- ments on the disaster for four days, and refused offers of foreign ht days.

ever, once the assistance was accepted, it took the Norwegian divers 4 hours to reach the Kursk — while Russian rescuers had failed to more than a week

e was also controversy over the cause of the August 12 explosion. egian military officials on August 21 said data from a Norwegian ing ship showed explosions of weapons inside the Kursk prob- sed the vessel to sink.

revious day Russian Defense Minister Igor Sergeyev repeated his that a collision, probably with a foreign vessel, was the most likely

as a collision with some sort of object. More likely than not an ster object. The records of those making direct observations show and an unidentified object at the bottom of the sea, which was at e level as our submarine. This is a fact."

a Norwegian military spokesman said there were no indications nk had collided with another vessel. He called such talk "domestic nds."

owhile, Norwegian Rear Admiral Einar Skorgen complained about ve Russian bureaucracy that delayed decisions. But he said such must be accepted because it was a Russian-led operation.

Crimean land reform called fiction

tern Economist)—Land reform in Crimea is fiction, said Ilmi y deputy head of Bahchisarai district administration, Aug. 14.

ded the problem is that the deported Crimean Tatars do not have to receive land shares since they were not members of collective ural enterprises.

y Head of the Crimean Tatar representative organization Medjlis said the majority of officials in Crimea are not prepared for the

easier for them to do nothing than work on the proposed changes nd reform process," he said.

, the land plots in Crimea are divided among the relatives of the former collective farms.

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UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ

Suite #1, 12227 - 107 Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta, T5M 1Y9
UN Office; (780) 488-3693; Advertising: (780) 488-3860
Fax: (780) 488-3859; E-mail: ukrnews@compusmart.ab.ca

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President: Marco Levytsky

Editor: Marco Levytsky
Hon. Kyiv Bureau Chief: Vitaliy Shevchenko
Advertising,Typesetting & Layout: Irena Hladki
Subscription & Circulation: Maria Rush

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Редактор: Марко Левицький
Поч. Гол. Київського Бюра: Віталій Шевченко
Оголошення та Мистецька підготовка: Ірена Гладкі
Передплати та розповсюд: Марія Раш

Українські Вісті видає дво–тижнево *Едмонтон Лайзергрефикс, Відділ Кенейдіен Криптикс Лтд.* Річна передплата $32.50. Всі права застережені. Не можна репродукувати ніяких матеріялів без писаного дозволу видавця. Опінії висловлені в статтях не все відповідають опінії власника, видавця чи редакційної ради.

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Українські Вісті це незалежна газета, яка сама утримується із передплат, оголошень та пожертв на пресовий фонд. Просимо підтримувати нашу газету повищими джерелами. Дякуємо заздалегідь за Вашу підтримку.

Ukraine's future appears somewhat brighter

Nine years after the Declaration of Independence, Ukraine appears to be making a turnaround for the better.

Perhaps the best news is in the economic indicators. For the first time since independence Gross Domestic Product is rising — five per cent over the first seven month of this year alone. So is industrial production — up 16.1 per cent over the same time last year. Foreign investment during the first six months of 2000 is up 58.6 per cent over the same period last year. And budget revenues during the first six months of 2000 were 52 per cent more than the same period of time in the previous year.

However, it is important to note that while these numbers may appear astounding, they are only so because of the depths to which the Ukrainian economy had fallen. GDP had been sliding every year since independence and had dropped to half of its 1991 level before rebounding. The same applies for industrial production. Foreign investment in Ukraine has been low even when compared with that of other CIS countries — let alone the rapidly developing former satellite states like Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic. And though budget revenues are rising and the wage and pension debt is being whittled down, it still exists and the upswing in the economic indicators has yet to make any significant difference in the abysmal living standards of the people. Nevertheless a definite turnaround is taking place and, if the trend continues, it will eventually lead to an improvement of the living standards.

The same negative factors that were present before, are present today. Top of the list is the endemic corruption which has become a way of life. Prosecutors have been making some some very high profile arrests, but this is more a matter of show than the kind of all-reaching anti-corruption drive Ukraine really needs. The status of the Ukrainian language in its own homeland remains pitiful. Russian newspapers, media, literature predominate. The Church supported by a large majority of Ukraine's faithful, conducts its services in Russian and is subservient to Moscow. On the bright side, however, there is evidence that attitudes of Russian speakers are changing, in Kyiv, at least. A large number of Kyivites, 53 per cent, continue to use Russian as their main language, but have not opposed sending their children to Ukrainian language schools, which now account for 80 percent of all schools in the city. As well, half of them believe that the "Ukrainian language is an attribute of Ukrainian statehood."

That is not to say there have not been some very positive developments during the past nine years. For one, Ukraine has developed peacefully and without the inter-ethnic and civil conflict that has plagued other CIS nations — most notably Russia. Ukraine has eliminated its nuclear weapons and, in its foreign policy, has moved ever closer to the West and its goal of integration into Europe. The currency has maintained its stability in the face of extreme pressure, particularly during last year's financial crisis in Russia. Ukraine now has a democratic Constitution and the voters have clearly and resolutely rejected the Communist past and opted for a democratic future.

So, while the first nine years of Ukraine's independent status have not gone the way many of us in the diaspora had wished, there are enough indicators to provide hope for a better future. But perhaps the best reason for hope is the oldest one — the indomitable spirit of the Ukrainian nation — a nation which has survived previous centuries of oppression, as well as famine, genocide and the greatest loss of humanity in the deadliest war in human history in this past century alone.

Український народ ще раз підтверди свій вибір на користь демократії

Звернення Надзвичайного і Повноважного Посла України в Канаді Юрія Щербака з нагоди 9–ої річниці Незалежності України

Шановні співгромадяни і співвітчизники, члени української громади в Канаді, дорогі друзі!

Серед вікопомних дат світової історії є одна, яка має найважливіше значення для нас, українців: 24 серпня 1991 року – день проголошення Верховною Радою України незалежності нашої держави. Вперше це свято відзначаємо в новому віці, в новому тисячолітті.

Обраний у серпні 1991 року шлях національного відродження на віки визначив долю України, стратегічною метою якої є інтеграція до Европейського союзу, перетворення нашої держави у сильну демократичну процвітаючу европейську країну.

Президентські вибори 1999 року, на яких перемогу вдруге здобув Леонід Кучма, засвідчили політичну зрілість суспільства і держави. Український народ ще раз підтвердив свій історичний вибір на користь незалежності і суверенітету, продовження курсу реформ, побудови ринкової економіки, розвитку демократії і верховенства права. Політичний плюралізм, свобода слова, вільного пересування, свобода підпр... приватна власність на засоби виробн... тому числі на землю, зростання кіль... активності громадських об'єднань, ... організацій, інші демократичні свобод... органічною частиною життя українського с... ства і ми по праву пишаємося цими досягн...

В Україні 2000 року створено всі перед... для подолання кризових явищ й доп... поліпшення соціально–економічної ситуа... тивна діяльність Президента України Л. К... Уряду реформаторів, очолюваного Пр... міністром В. Ющенком, Верховної Ради У... на чолі якої стоїть І. Плющ свідчить про ... тивні зрушення в Україні, яка йде курс... боких демократичних реформ.

Дорогі друзі!

Хочу в цей святковий день від усі... привітати кожного, кому небайдужа доля ... України, всім тим, хто щирим словом і ... ділом підтримує українську державу. Це ... ваше свято!

Нехай Бог благословить Україну і ... шлях у XXI столітті.

Посол Ю. Щ...

Дев'ять років незалежності України: соціяльний аспект

Сергій Руденко

(Радіо «Свобода»)—Інтеграція у міжнародне співтовариство нової незалежної держави – процес довготривалий і копіткий. Не менш складний він і для осягнення людською свідомістю. Час від дня проголошення Україною незалежності, став періодом усвідомлення громадянами необхідності державного суверенітету. Для більшості з них ставлення до незалежності було і залишається прямо пропорційним державному піклуванню про їхній соціяльний захист.

Прорікши знамените: «Держава це – я», французький правитель Людовік Чотирнадцятий, звичайно ж, говорив про свою велич і могутність. Але, напевно, цю фразу, але з іншим підтекстом має право повторити кожний громадянин суверенної держави, бо кожне «Я» помножене на «Ми» є частиною складного механізму під назвою Держава.

З часу проголошення Україною незалежності кількісне «Я» скоротилося більш, ніж на два мільйони. Якщо на початок 91–го року у державі проживало п'ятдесят два мільйони шістдесят тисяч чоловік, то сьогодні це число становить сорок дев'ять мільйонів чотириста сімдесят тисяч.

При цьому середній показник скорочення чисельності населення упродовж останніх дев'яти років склав двісті сімдесят дві тисячі чоловік щорічно. Не слід очевидно, категорично стверджувати, як зрештою і заперечувати, що ... наслідок державної соціяльної політики. У ... випадку швидше можна говорити про її відсу...

Сьогодні соціяльно захищеним в Україні ... ється лише той, хто сам і займається с... хистом. Звичайно ж, мова не йде про чотир... тимільйонний загін пенсіонерів, доведен... жебрацького стану, мільйони офіційно зар... ваних та прихованих безробітних. Для них ... порух та жест владних мужів у їхню ст... сприймається як певний натяк.

Дев'ять років натяків, дев'ять років обі... Обіцянок реформувати пенсійну систему, ... печити усіх непрацюючих роботою, а ... не роботою, то хоча б пристойною матер... допомогою від держави, збільшити розмір ... них на догляд за дитиною. Як це не парадо... – за часи незалежності в Україні змінилося ... що, от лише обіцянки про поліпшення соці... забезпечення залишаються незмінними.

А тому покоління, що виросло вже у суве... державі, вищезгаданий вислів Людовіка Чот... цятого сприймає по–своєму: Держава це – ... жава, а Я це – Я. Таким чином соціяльна по... часів незалежної України – це політика ві... вання громадян від держави. Перші почи... жити своїм життям, а друга – своїм. Н... період – це період самоідентифікації ... стагнації «Ми».

Дев'ять років незалежності України: економічний аспект

Сергій Руденко

(Радіо «Свобода»)—Незалежність держави визначається не лише традиційними для неї атрибутами – прапором, гербом, гімном, власною грошовою одиницею, військом, визначеними кордонами та обраним громадянами президентом, а й її економікою. Якщо дев'ять років, що минули з часу проголошення України незалежною державою, стали для неї достатнім строком, аби утвердитись на міжнародній політичній арені, то проблема її економічної безпеки залишається актуальною і дотепер.

Напередодні проголошення Незалежності в українському самвидаві достатньо популярною була практика порівняння економічного потенціялу тодішньої Української Радянської Соціялістичної Республіки із можливостями західних держав. Реальні підстави для цього справді були.

Україна серед республік колишнього Радянського Союзу небезпідставно вважалася одним із лідерів промислового виробництва. Її потенціяльні можливості кінця 80–х навіть не викликали ні в кого сумнівів, що як незалежна держава вона зможе мати повноцінну і здорову економіку. Проте перші три роки після здобуття Україною незалежності принесли оптимістам розчарування.

Десять тисяч відсотків інфляції у 92–му році, розвал загальносоюзних виробничих зв'язків із давніми партнерами, відмова від претензій на активи та пасиви колишнього Радянського Союзу та девалюований купон–карбованець стали холодним душем після ейфоричного ковтка свободи.

У 94–му році після приходу до влади Леоніда Кучми було проголошено курс на радикаль... номічні реформи. На цьому все розпочало... і все закінчилося.

Упродовж шести років тричі оголошува... рекцію економічної політики, а ролю укр... Бальцеровича приміряли на себе і Віктор П... і Володимир Лановий і Сергій Тигипко. ... усі спроби реанімувати українську ек... виявилися марними. Як результат – за ... років ВВП скоротився удвічі, наприклад, ... продукція сільського господарства зменш... 48 мільярдів до 25 мільярдів гривень, а вироб... промисловості скоротилося із п'ятдесяти ... цяти трьох мільярдів гривень.

Приватизація державного майна та розпа... землі, на які влада покладала великі надії, пр... лише розчарування. Нові власники заводів, ф... та земельних наділів поки що не зробили ... мічного прориву». Брак ефективної по... бази, відсутність політичної волі у влади до ... мічних реформ, уражений бюрократизмом і ... цією державний апарат не дозволяє сьогодн... піти шляхом, наприклад, Польщі та Слов...

Звичайно, заяву прем'єра Ющенк... зростання ВВП у першому кварталі цього ... можна сприймати як певний симптом о... української економіки. Одначе на тлі ... цятимільярдного зовнішнього боргу ... повної енергетичної залежності від Росії ... йонного загону безробітних здобуток ... уряду виглядає надто дрібним. Значить, бо... за незалежність триває.

anada deporting man who fought despotism on two fronts

Letters to The Editor
Листи до редакції

ober, our federal government is set to deport Serge a St. Catharines, Ont. senior citizen with serious health ns. Why? Mr. Kisluk has been branded a Nazi war al, yet our government has not proven this accusation. d, they took advantage of a loophole in Canadian ation law and claimed that he is being deported be- "must have" lied during immigration proceedings me a Canadian citizen. Incredibly, even this flimsy has not been proven: it's a supposition only.

would think that someone who had committed atroci- uld do everything they could to hide their true iden- Mr. Kisluk immigrated to Canada under his own name. has a publicly accessible phone number. And when charged, he was so taken aback by the accusations idn't occur to him to hire a savvy lawyer who knew opholes. Truth would win in the end in a democratic like Canada, he believed. These are the actions of a th a clear conscience.

ccusations against Mr. Kisluk as a "war criminal" are t best. Our RCMP, with their multi-million dollar "war budget, traveled to Mr. Kisluk's home village in e to see if they could dig up people to testify against he best that they could come up with was to find some- o said that, while Mr. Kisluk was a policeman in Nazi- ed Ukraine, he made known Communists do push-ups nishment. Another person said that he beat up one man y have witnessed the killing of a woman. These accu- were made, but not by any means proven. Even if all e accusations proved to be true, that would still not him a war criminal. If this is the strongest case the could make against this man, why did they not simply e whole thing? What is the government's agenda? It y isn't prosecuting bona fide war criminals.

is even more troubling is what the RCMP hasn't said. luk freely admits that he was a police officer in Nazi-occupied Ukraine between 1941 and 1943. The question is why. Ukraine at that time did not have a government of its own. The part of Ukraine where Mr. Kisluk lived had been under hostile Polish rule for some time, and from 1939 until 1941, had been under brutal Soviet Communist rule. Exile to Siberia and random executions were horrifyingly common-place. When the Germans came in 1941, Mr. Kisluk, like most people in the area, looked forward to liberation from Com-munist enslavement. Who could know then that the Nazis were as brutal as the Communists?

And North Americans seem to forget that it wasn't only Jews and Gypsies who were targeted for Nazi extinction. "Slavs" — meaning Ukrainians, Poles, and Russians, were also considered subhuman. Part of Hitler's "master race" plan was to take over the vast territory of Ukraine which was the breadbasket of Europe. His plans to exterminate the "subhu-man" Ukrainian people and repopulate the land with the Aryan race is well-documented.

This plan was chillingly similar to what Stalin had already achieved in Eastern Ukraine before the war. In 1932 and 1933, Stalin sent his commissars throughout the countryside of So-viet Ukraine to collect up every last kernel of grain. He then sealed the border between Ukraine and Russia to make sure that Ukrainians couldn't get food. Seven million Ukrainians starved to death.

What Ukrainian in his right mind would be pro-Nazi? And what Ukrainian in his right mind would be pro-Communist?

Mr. Kisluk, like many of his neighbours, was anti-Nazi and anti-Communist. Mr. Kisluk, like thousands of others, infil-trated the Nazi administration to obtain weapons and infor-mation in order to fight for a free and democratic Ukraine. Like thousands of other "Ukrainian police", in the spring of 1943, Mr. Kisluk took to the forests with his stolen Nazi weap-ons and his knowledge and became a Ukrainian underground soldier — a member of the UPA (Ukrainian Insurgent Army).

As a member of the UPA, Mr. Kisluk took part in warfare against both the Nazis and the Communists. Even Soviet and German archives document this activity. How is it that our RCMP is not aware?

One maneuver that Mr. Kisluk participated in personally was the liberation of two boxcars filled with approximately 400 Ukrainian children who were headed for slave labour in Germany.

When the war ended, Mr. Kisluk's village was again under Communist domination. Mr. Kisluk's father and grandpar-ents, and two uncles were killed by the Communists. The people who testified against him at his hearing were known Communist party members. It is no wonder that Mr. Kisluk chose to be a Canadian citizen.

Instead of deporting Mr. Kisluk, our government should thank him for risking his life in the fight against despotism on two fronts. Our government owes this man an apology. Or an award.

I for one am ashamed at our government's action towards this man. If you feel the same way, I urge you to clip this letter and send it to our Minister of Justice with a brief note about your outrage:

The Honourable Anne McLellan P.C., M.P.
Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
284 Wellington Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8

Yours Truly

Marsha Skrypuch, Toronto

Death by kolomiyka

ation Canadian dancers and s of dancers — the above e is just a matter of time!

ently had the good fortune to the Vegreville Pysanka Fes- nd a good time was enjoyed and all festival attendees in truly one of Canada's great- festivals. An issue that sur- however, was just how ag- e and dangerous the kolo- ing was becoming during the g dances, especially at the ville Multiplex with its ced concrete floor.

main concern is over the very ous acrobatic and high-veloc- ning maneuvers in a confined with no regard for dancer or tor safety.

is not something new. In fact, concern has been building in ainian dance and musical and there have been numer- idents involving injury. But eguards have resulted, and as been no passage of wis- om past dancers to the ones tly involved.

This year's Vegreville Festival kolomiyka was no exception and on the first evening three or four very dangerous incidents were narrowly avoided, before the major incident, resulting in a young man smashing his face on the concrete floor, split-ting the skin along the length of his jawbone, and spilling much blood across the dance floor.

As following evening demon-strated, nothing had been learned from that particular incident and many similarly dangerous maneu-vers were continued. On this second occasion, however, a glimmer of hope emerged. The musicians from the band Absolut (and they should be congratulated for this) diffused the building danger on the dance-floor on no less than four occasions during that kolomiyka alone. They refused to continue playing until the spectator ring moved four paces back — and this took quite a while, as crowds do not take kindly to or-ders at a zabava-dance.

There was much discussion about the problem in Vegreville, with in-put from dancers, spectators, stage technical crews and so on. among the recommendations was the obser-vation that the band is ultimately in the power position. If they stop play-ing, the kolomiyka ceases abruptly. Our bands must keep their finger on the pulse of any building problems. They should set the stage for the kolomiyka by announcing, in ad-vance, the house rules given below:

• The larger the ring diameter, the more spectators can fit in and watch without being injured. The crowds should be asked to line the walls of the stage area, and the band may have to stop playing and force the ring back out as it invariably begins to close.

• No high velocity spins, pendu-lums, or towers greater than two-tier should be allowed. These maneu-vers are entirely different in a re-hearsal studio, with a wooden floor, trained dancers, experienced part-ners, and no alcohol. At a zabava, where the consumption of alcohol leads to a greater probability of a miscue, high velocity spins must be banned. (One striking example of what I am talking about was one high velocity spin in which a woman wrapped her legs around a man's waist, with no other means of sup-port, and he proceeded to twirl around at high speed. Had her grip weakened just for a split second, her skull would have fractured on the concrete floor causing instant death.)

So, who will identify the concerns and who will enforce the safety measures? Surely, responsibility lies with us all, but must include regular reminders to our youth from dance ensembles, festival organizers, zabava bands, our Ukrainian media, our Ukrainian Dance Associations, the parents and fellow dancers to each other. But reminders are for-gotten in the excitement and bravado of the kolomiyka ring, so we must establish some guidelines now in order to avoid a major catastrophe, which is looming in the not too dis-tant future.

Name withheld by request

ас пристосовати слова українського гімну до реальності

Канада стала самостійною то слова «О Канадо» були вані до нової реальности. Вже час щоби слова українського були пристосовані до теперішної реальності. Я пропоную у зміну. Співаючи гімн до тих самих нотів як попередньо. включають:

рша стрічка «Ще не вмерла» пригадує що ми сподіємось . Це змінено.

Запануєм» — вислів каже ми ще в чужих ярмах. Це тому що ми вже самостійні.

братгя» змінено на «нарід», тому що наше жіноцтво ли так як і мужчини і зробили великий вклад до розбудови и.

очі слова віддзеркалюють нову реальність:

а Люба Україна
люба Україна живе не загине
ас міцний дух, і славні родини
ть наші вороги як роса на сонці
будем панувати у своїй сторонці.
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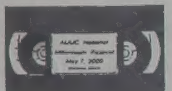

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Russian bishops reject autonomy for Ukrainian Chur

By Jan Maksymiuk

During the third week of August in Moscow, some 150 bishops convened for the four-day Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church. The situation of Orthodoxy in Ukraine was one of the topics discussed by that forum.

Before the Russian bishops' meeting, President Leonid Kuchma had sent a telegram to Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Aleksii II asking the patriarch and the Council of Bishops to consider the possibility of granting autonomy to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (subordinated to the Moscow Patriarchate). Kuchma's request was reportedly considered on August 15 and backed by "a number of bishops from western Ukraine led by Bishop of Vyshhorod Pavel." The forum, however, refused to consider the petition, saying that secular authorities should not interfere in Church affairs.

The situation surrounding Ukrainian Orthodoxy remains very difficult. Currently, Ukraine has three Orthodox Churches: the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate), the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Kyiv Patriarchate), and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church. The Moscow Patriarchate recognizes the Church subordinated to itself as the only canonical Orthodox Church in Ukraine, viewing followers of the other two Churches as "schismatics."

The official status of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) is unclear, however. In 1992 the Russian Orthodox Church granted its Ukrainian branch the right of self-governance. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) has its own Synod of Bishops; it is empowered to consecrate new bishops without any special authorization from Moscow; and it can also canonize its own saints. Technically speaking, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) is an autonomous structure. But in this case it appears that names do matter: the word "autonomous" does not appear in the Church's name or in any of the documents related to that Church.

According to the Moscow-based "Segodnya," most members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) — particularly from Ukraine's eastern regions and Odesa — think that granting autonomy to their Church will encourage those in Ukraine who want the full independence of Ukrainian Orthodoxy from Moscow. And this, the newspaper maintains, is what those believers fear.

Official Kyiv, on the other hand, has repeatedly voiced the opinion that it wants Ukraine's three Orthodox Churches to be united into a "Ukrainian Local Orthodox Church." Judging by the reaction of the Council of Bishops of the Russian Orthodox Church, Kyiv's striving is strongly supported by Constantinople Patriarch Bartholomew I, who traditionally enjoys a special status among the world's Orthodox patriarchs.

Ukraine's Metropolitan of Odesa and Izmail Agafangel (Moscow Patriarchate) told journalists on August 17 that the Moscow forum condemned the Constantinople patriarch's "unprecedented interference" in the canonical territory of the Russian Orthodox Church, meaning Estonia and Ukraine. (In some members of Estonia's Orthodox Church [illegible] juridical subordination to the Constantinople Patriarchate, but the Moscow Patriarchate has refused to acknowledge Constantinople's canonical rights in Estonia.)

"Patriarch Bartholomew declared Ukraine [illegible] canonical territory which is a gross violation of [illegible] canons," ITAR-TASS quoted Agafangel as [illegible]. According to Agafangel, the "dissenters" [illegible] the Kyiv Patriarchate and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church) are planning to convene an [illegible] Ukrainian Council of Bishops at which Metropolitan Volodymyr (Moscow Patriarchate) will be [illegible] resign and his powers will be passed [illegible] Constantinople Patriarchate's representative. Agafangel expressed his regret that Bartholomew is deprived of the support of "Ukrainian nationalists and politicians who, in violation of the law, meddle in Church [illegible]

Some Ukrainian media reported earlier that talks on the unification of Ukrainian Orthodox Churches were expected to take place in Chambessy, Switzerland, on August 20, with the participation of representatives from Ukraine's three Orthodox Churches, government officials, and Constantinople Patriarch Bartholomew. But this report has not been officially confirmed.

Judging by the Russian Orthodox Church's position on Ukraine, which was reaffirmed at its Council of Bishops, such talks would be highly unlikely to [illegible] any results. To put it bluntly, the Moscow Patriarchate would allow the unification of the Ukrainian Churches only under one condition — namely, the "[illegible] schismatics" under the wing of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which itself would continue to be [illegible] nonical unity" with the Russian Orthodox Church.

Orthodox Churche on warpath

(RFE/RL)—The Council of Bishops of the [illegible] nian Orthodox Church (Kyiv Patriarchate) said [illegible] on August 22 that the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) is not an Orthodox Church according to canonical law, Interfax reported.

The statement follows the previous week's [illegible] by the Russian Orthodox Church to grant its Ukrainian branch autonomous status.

The Kyiv Patriarchate bishops also condemned the Russian Orthodox Church and its Ukrainian branch for the "unwillingness to jointly overcome the [illegible] Ukraine and unite Ukrainian Orthodoxy into a [illegible] local Ukrainian Orthodox Church."

Meanwhile, Premier Viktor Yushchenko [illegible] the same day that the government will not interfere [illegible] Orthodox Church affairs.

CIS summit brings few result

(Eastern Economist)—Yalta hosted a two-day, informal CIS summit August 18-19, which brought few results.

It was affected by the accident involving the Russian nuclear submarine Kursk, as Russian president Vladimir Putin cut short his visit to Crimea and met with CIS heads-of-state briefly.

To adjust to Putin's schedule a joint meeting of 9 CIS presidents from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, Russia, and Ukraine was shifted from Aug. 19 to Aug. 18 in Foros at Kuchma's dacha instead of the planned Livadia Palace.

These changes affected the results of the informal Yalta CIS summit. Ukraine expected that such a large-scale though informal situation would solve many problems with CIS countries, first of all with Russia. Kyiv had planned to discuss a number of questions.

Among the questions prepared were the settlements procedure for Russian natural gas, abolition of export duty for oil and oil products introduced by Moscow, provision of Russian credits for finishing the construction of generating sets at the Khmelnytsky and Rivne nuclear power stations, and the creation of a CIS free trade zone. Yet, during the meeting between Putin and Kuchma none of these were discussed.

According to Kuchma, the Russian and Ukrainian presidents agreed to give their respective governments instructions to step up work on resolving gas problems. Instead, Kuchma expressed irritation that the issue of Ukraine's gas debt restructuring is not being resolved although an agreement on this issue was reached [illegible] ex-president Boris Yeltsin and confirmed at [illegible] meetings by Putin in Kyiv and Sevastopol. Neither [illegible] the issue of Russian gas supplies to Ukraine [illegible] year been resolved.

"The prices offered by Moscow are not acceptable," stressed Kuchma. He complained that the price [illegible] US$102 per thousand cu.m. of gas quoted by Russia [illegible] Ukraine is unacceptable. In addition, Russia has [illegible] lated that gas sales can only be conducted via the [illegible] company of Russia.

Ukraine wants its gas shortfall to be met by [illegible] from both Turkmenistan and Russia. Kuchma also [illegible] cized the lack of a CIS free trade zone, which he [illegible] will lead relations within the CIS to a dead end. [illegible] reminded everyone that the question was discussed [illegible] the last summit in Moscow in June. Yet, Russia [illegible] rushing to fulfill the agreement.

Peace Corps volunteers ar

(Eastern Economist)—The 18th group of Peace [illegible] volunteers was sworn in August 21 in Kyiv. [illegible] ing of eight volunteers, the group will start their [illegible] year term of service in Ukrainian governmental [illegible] NGOs working on various environmental projects. Since the Peace Corps began its activities [illegible] Ukraine in 1992, over 600 volunteers have taken [illegible] tive part in business development, teaching English [illegible] a foreign language, and environmental projects.

Putin pressured on Ukraine's gas debts, diversion

Michael Lelyveld

(RFE/RL)—Russian President Vladimir Putin has under new pressure in to take action against for its overdue gas debts and the diversion of passing its territory.

Rogozin, chairman of the State Duma's For- Affairs Committee, called in a radio interview for to take Ukraine before an international court ing to pay an estimated US$2 billion in debts supplies.

ogozin's statement came after the Duma heard tes- that thefts of Russian transit gas could increase of the closing of five nuclear power reactors une, Russian news service www.lenta.ru said.

criticisms were apparently aggravated by reports interview with Ukrainian President Leonid ma in Germany's Der Spiegel magazine. Kuchma ly told Der Spiegel, "Moscow is pumping over illion cubic meters (of gas) per year to the West h our country. What's an odd billion siphoned pared to that?" Kuchma reportedly added that efts from transit pipelines take place under or- en the government to ease pressure within e's energy sector.

statements, if accurate, could be highly dam- o Kuchma's credibility in light of his promises k down on diversions of Russian gas. Even if ove false, they are likely to inflame Russian sen- against Ukraine's perennial habit of accumulat- ears for gas supplies.

ibility is a major problem for Kuchma. Earlier ents have always postponed the question of how Ukraine from consistently using more fuel than afford.

also unclear that the threat of taking Kyiv to an ational court will help. Itera, the trading partner sia's Gazprom, filed suit against Ukraine in a h arbitration court last year, but it was still forced supplies in August due to lagging payments from ner than electricity plants.

the statement by Rogozin suggests that there may nger push to raise the gas problem as a domes- ical issue before the winter heating season sets involvement of Rogozin appears to drive the blem beyond the realm of finance toward deeper ns about Russian power.

ozin, a founder of the now-defunct Congress of Communities and an early backer of Aleksandr has consistently championed the causes of Rus- norities in the near abroad. In this case, his an- r Ukrainian debt seems to stem from the impli- hat Kyiv has been defying Moscow by using Russia's gas without paying for it. At the same time, gas customers in Russia have been forced to pay higher rates or face the threat of cutoff.

Russian frustration with the Ukrainian problem comes during a week that has highlighted the limits of Putin's power. His government has appeared powerless to prevent the bombing in Moscow's Pushkin Square or to punish its perpetrators, powerless to rescue the nuclear submarine Kursk, and powerless to halt the Islamic uprising in Central Asia despite recent security pledges within the CIS.

In this atmosphere of dashed hopes for Putin's image of resurgent power, Rogozin has now raised the problem of Ukraine as a nationalist challenge for Russia and a test of political will.

Previous Russian leaders have also proved powerless to solve the problem because of the need to cross Ukraine in order to reach European markets for gas. But the old puzzle is a new test for the unpredictable Putin, who combines the forces of reform and nationalism on his own. Russia has already indicated that it is looking for ways to build bypass pipelines around Ukraine.

Eleven years ago, the issues of interstate debts and energy costs drove Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to transform the economic structure of Comecon by demanding cash in world prices for Russian oil. If Ukraine were faced now with a similar decision on gas, it would be completely unprepared. But recent weeks seem to have sounded a series of warnings for Ukraine. Pressure may now be building on Putin to show that he is still in control.

Ukraine may build gas pipeline to Turkmenistan

(RFE/RL)—Deputy Premier Yulia Tymoshenko on August 21 repeated a previous announcement that Kyiv is considering the construction of a gas pipeline from Turkmenistan to Ukraine via the Black Sea, the "Eastern Economist Daily" reported.

Tymoshenko noted that Ukraine has the necessary economic and technical resources to construct such a pipeline.

"Estimations show that Ukraine may receive 60 billion cubic meters of gas from Turkmenistan each year. Within the next three to five years, Ukraine can build the first [section of the] pipeline, [which will be] capable of transporting 30 billion cubic meters of gas per year," Tymoshenko said.

She added that the government is currently preparing documents for talks between Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and his Turkmen counterpart, Saparmurat Niyazov, in Ashgabat next month.

Four Ukrainian women die in Tel Aviv brothel attack

Guardian, United Kingdom, Aug 16, 2000

ce in Tel Aviv are hunting a serial ar- attacking the city's sex industry after ery death of four women, locked in- brothel which was set on fire overnight. attack, said by social workers to be the of its kind in a week, added to the de- the increasing traffic in women for tion by Russian and Israeli gangs, and selling treatment they suffer.

al workers believe the dead women from Ukraine, where most of those from the former Soviet Union for tion are from.

The police said they were investigating the possibility that the fire might have been started by ultra-Orthodox Jews opposed to the sex industry.

"We are pursuing a number of courses of inquiry, both the possibility of a dispute between operators of these businesses and that extremist ultra-Orthodox Jews are responsible," the chief of police, Shlomo Aharonishky, said.

Earlier this year Amnesty International reported that 10,000 women from the former Soviet Union had been virtually enslaved in Israel in the past 10 years. Many have forged documents identifying them as Jewish immigrants.

Promised earnings of US$1,000 a month, they are routinely confined to flats, deprived of their passports, beaten and threatened with arrest as illegal immigrants.

Women's organisations say the police have become more aware of their plight in the past six months. Until recently the authorities have been reluctant to prosecute the men involved, although 400 women are detained and deported every year.

Although most of them know they are coming to work as prostitutes, about 30% of the women arrive in response to job advertisements in Russian papers for waitresses and nurses, the Israeli Coalition against Trafficking in Women says.

Roadside murders discovered in Luhansk

(Post)—Five corpses were found in their side roadside close to the Troetska vil- Luhansk oblast, Kievskie Vedomosty d on August 9. All the victims were 20 to 30 years old and residents of oblast. According to available infor- the cause of death for each the vic- wounds from an automatic weapon, bly a machine gun. It is suspected that derers are located in the Donetsk and area. A special squad has been cre- carry out the investigation. Heading d to the head of criminal investiga- the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Best wishes to Albertans of Ukrainian heritage as we celebrate the 9th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence.

Hon. Gene Zwozdesky,
MLA Edmonton Mill Creek
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Canada's National Ukrainian Festival withstands nightmarish weathe

By Danielle Bowditch, *Dauphin Herald*
With additions from UkrNews

Despite some nightmarish weather that raged at Selo Ukraina o long weekend, Canada's National Ukrainian Festival will break its 35th anniversary year.

Over 6,500 attended the three-day event held August 4-6 on Ell Manitoba.

Due to the inhospitable climate, grandstand shows were moved the hilltop on both the nights of August 4 and 6.

The move was made August 4 after lightning struck and power w on the main stage.

The upper stage, although covered, is much smaller and provide of the effect of the main stage.

As a result, festival president Dr. Mark Symchych says cover main stage next year is a major priority and fund-raising for the n already begun.

"The original plans for the stage did include a roof. The archite plans have been paid for and now it is a matter of making it a priority Selo, Countryfest and ourselves," said Symchych.

According to Symchych, despite the weather and the constant between stages, the crowd remained content.

"Mother Nature really played havoc with us, but crowd spirits re undaunted. In fact, it actually drew the community closer togethe said.

According to Symchych, next year's event will be bigger and b

"The worst you can do is blow the lot on your anniversary a have a dud the next year," said Symchych.

Next year's palate will offer much of the same vibrant festivit cluding the added Sunday night grandstand show and the multi-c stage and various workshops.

This year's performers included the dance groups: Volya from Edm Zirka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble from Dauphin, Canada's National and Dancing Cossacks from Dauphin, Troyanda Ukrainian Dan semble from Selkirk, MB, Poltava Ensemble of Song, Music and from Regina and Folkdance Tour 2000 from Bonnyville, AB.

Choral groups included the Ukrainian Male Chorus of Edmonton, nian Festival Choir of Dauphin and the Ukrainian Orthodox Mille Choir of Manitoba.

Musical groups were Dunai from Ajax, ON, the Band Zirka Sudbury, the duet Maryna from Winnipeg and the Musical Knight chestra, also from Winnipeg.

Masters of Ceremonies for the Grandstand Shows were Michael and Michael Luchka of Kontakt TV in Toronto, while their boss, Executive Producer Jurij Klufas served as hospodar with his wife, Ev as hospodynia.

Counterclockwise from Top Left: Edmonton's Volya; G ernor General Adrienne Clarkson and husband Ro R. Saul are greeted with the traditional bread and s the opening ceremonies. Behind them, Left to R Manitoba Opposition Leader and former Premier G Filmon, Dauphin Mayor Bill Nicholson, Festival Pr dent Dr. Mark Symchych, Dauphin-Roblin MLA S Struthers and Boris Michaleski, representative fo Rural Municipality of Dauphin; Volya's Pryvit; Zirk Dauphin's Pryvit.

PHOTOS — DAUPHIN HERAL

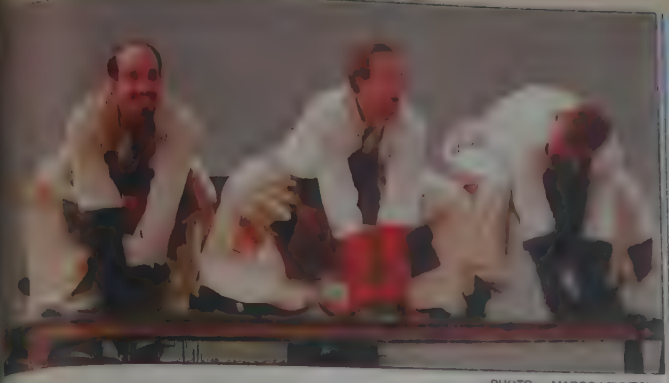

PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Shumka performs an excerpt from Shumka's Cinderella.

Immigration Department urged to show more compassion

Zarusky awarded UCC-APC's Luchkovich Award

(UkrNews)—The 2000 winner of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Alberta Provincial Council's Michael Luchkovich Award, presented annually for outstanding service by a Canadian parliamentarian of Ukrainian origin, used his podium to urge more compassion from Canada's Immigration Department in regards to Ukraine, August 13.

"I think it's our duty as Canadians to help them (people from Ukraine) in any and every way we can — not monetary — but through visits, through training and I think the residents of this country it is our duty to remind our politicians of the plight they are going through and I think at this time our immigration department should have a little more compassion for people, because this is a free world and I think people should be entitled to travel freely wherever they can, as we, can as Canadians," said Steve Zarusky, former chairman of the Multiculturalism Commission.

Zarusky, who ended his acceptance speech with "Long live Canada! Slava Ukrayini!", noted that his years as chairman of the commission gave him great pleasure the highlight of which was the celebration of the centennial of Ukrainian settlement in Canada in 1991

Zarusky was elected to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta in 1986 and was re-elected in 1989. He was appointed chairman of the Alberta Multicultural Commission in June 1989.

He sat on two Cabinet Committees: Multiculturalism and Agriculture and Rural Economy. He chaired the advisory Committee on Urbanization. He was a member of the Caucus Committees: Agriculture, Environment, and Health and Social Services. In addition he was member of two Standing Committees of the Legislature: Private Bills and Law and Regulations. He was a member of the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village Advisory Board and the Victoria Settlement Advisory Board.

After leaving politics in 1993 Zarusky worked in Ukraine as an agricultural Consultant in the development and processing of food products.

In his own community, Zarusky was the president of the local Ukrainian Catholic Church group, a member of the Lion's Club, the Royal Canadian Legion and the Chamber of Commerce.

Steve Zarusky

Over 3,000 attended the event held at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village (UCHV), 50 kilometres east of Edmonton.

The afternoon program was interrupted by a torrential downpour, but resumed an hour later, though with a shortened program.

Alberta Infrastructure Minister Ed Stelmach used the occasion to officially announce the creation of the Alberta-Ukraine Advisory Council, which was initially reported in the Ukrainian News issue of June 28.

Stelmach made presentations to three Alberta institutions that are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year — UCC - APC itself, the UCHV and the Ukrainian Bilingual Program.

Dr. Peter Savaryn spoke about the importance of each.

"The introduction of Ukrainian bilingual program 25 years ago, in my opinion, is our greatest achievement. As you know, it existed before, but was banned in 1916. G.R. Boyle, Education Minister, and a school inspector from Wostok, R. Fletcher, said that Ukrainian is nothing but a dialect of Russian. What ignorance. And what chauvinism, too, because French was also banned, and school books in other languages were publicly burned in front of the Manitoba Parliament in Winnipeg, where a Monument of Taras Shevchenko now stands. Fortunately, Premiers Strom and Lougheed knew better, and Albertans now enjoy many bilingual programs," he said.

He described the Village as the greatest of Ukrainian monuments in Canada.

"It has over 30 historic buildings, stores over 16,000 artifacts and over 75 volumes of research documents. In the last 25 years it was visited by over 250,000 tourists. As it is a living museum, over 250,000 children participated in its programs."

Referring to the UCC and it's future, Dr. Savaryn said it "shall exist as long as we have enough leaders, idealists and volunteers, willing to serve our organizations and community."

The artistic portion of the program was comprised of performances by the trio Tryptik, made up of Odesa Atwood, Irene and Olya Planchak; the Kupalo Ukrainian Dancers, Verkhovyna Choir, the Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, who did an excerpt from their current touring production "Shumka's Cinderella" and comedian Victor Pobihushchy.

Taras Nohas served as Master of Ceremonies.

ВІТАЄМО УКРАЇНСЬКУ ГРОМАДУ З 9-ою РІЧНИЦЕЮ ПРОГОЛОШЕННЯ НЕЗАЛЕЖНОСТІ УКРАЇНИ

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Дружина Стефанія з Бирнабі, Б.К. й кузин з Едмонтону Микола Стахів складають на пресовий фонд «Українських Вістей» 100 долярів. Вічна Йому Пам'ять!

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Святкування почнуться бенкетом у суботу 21 жовтня в годині 6:00 вечора у готелі Шател Луїс. **Головним доповідачем на бенкеті буде знана журналістка Віра КЕ.**

Завершенням святкувань буде відзначення заслужених членкинь організації в неділю 22–го жовтня в домівці Українського Національного Об'єднання в 2 год. дня.

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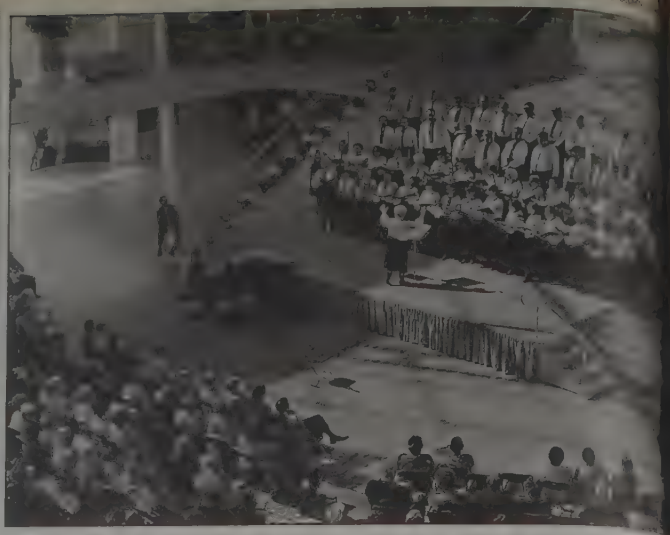

ФОТО РОМАН ПЕТ

Хор О. Кошиця виступає в Едмонтонській міській ратуші.

Хор ім. О. Кошиця гостем УНО в Едмонтоні

Стефанія Геврик

В днях від 17–21 липня. в Едмонтоні відбулася вже з черги 24–та Дворічна Світова Конференція Міжнародного Товариства Науки Музики (ISME). На таку Конференцію з'їжджаються хори і диригенти з різних держав світу все до іншої країни. Цього року така Конференція відбулася в Канаді, в Едмонтоні і в ній брав участь хор ім. О. Кошиця з Вінніпеґу.

Українським мешканцям Едмонтону було дуже приємно слухати співу нашого хору, який вже прославився своїми виступами по різних державах світу за час майже 50 років свого існування. Шкода, що Т–во ISME подало так мало інформацій про виступи всіх хорів, включно з хором О. Кошиця.

Хор О. Кошиця співав 20 липня в об'єднаній церкві Мек Доуґалл, 21 липня в римокатолицькій катедрі Всіх Святих та в міській ратуші.

Про історію хору ім. О. Кошиця і його довголітнього диригента Д–р В. Климкова була вже поміщена стаття в попередньому числі «Українських Вістей».

Після концертових виступів, 22 липня Управа УНО, ОУК і колишні члени МУНО запросили диригента і хористів прибути до домівки Українського Національного Об'єднання на перекуску й товариську гутірку.

Гостей привітав голова колишніх МУНО–івців (Alumni) О. Вовк і передав провадити програмою заступнику голови УНО Мирославу Куць.

Дуже цікаво було слухати споминів з молодечих років, коли в 1944 р. В. Климків і М. Куць ще молодими студентами разом були учасниками Вищих Освітніх Курсів у Вінніпеґу.

В 1940–их і 1950–их роках такі курси влаштовувала річно на шість тижнів Культурно–Освітня Референтура УНО, а відтак і Культурно–Освітня Референтура Осередку Української Культури й Освіти, які видали сотні кваліфікованих культурно–освітніх, громадських і мистецьких працівників.

Професор Олександер Кошиць світової слави мистець, композитор, диригент, педагог і науковець був душею курсів, а по його смерті сталим викладачем була його дружина Тетяна Кошиць та висококваліфіковані знавці, педагоги й інструктори.

Присутні на залі, колишні учасники В. Курсів признали, що Курси мали на них колосальний вплив, на їхнє життя а також і на професії. М. Куць признав, що любов до мистецтва, музики і танцю спонукала його заложити танцювальну групу «Шумка» а за десять років пізніше групу «Черемош». Любов до музики, української пісні у В. Климкова розвинулася у любов до хорового мистецтва коли він присвятив ціле своє життя. Багато присутніх на залі брали участь в таких курсах кілька разово і мали нагоду пригадувати цікаві моменти. З Едмонтону учасниками були: С. і В. Гладки, Н. і С. Коваль, О. Вовк, Л. і М. Куць, А. Ст венс, М. і В. Гошко, а з Вінніпеґу: М. і Климків, Й. і Б. Климків, Л. і З. Каттай, Бабух, які були на залі, бо певна частина хору мусіла від'їхати. Гостей також вітали ще: дириг хору «Дніпро» М. Дитиняк, д–р М. Суховерський, С. Геврик, Л. Куць і інші.

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Потік нелегалів зупинити важко, але можливо

Василь Зубач

(«День»)—На Закарпатті прийшло штатне тренування «Проти нелегальній міграції та контрабандній діяльності», підготовлене відділом оперативного плянування штабу прикордонних військ Північно–західного напряму.

Начальник прес–служби штабу підполковник Володимир Бу сказав для «Дня»: «Тільки на словацькій дільниці в Закарп працює з нашого боку 350 провідників, але символічна крим відповідальність дозволяє їм продовжувати свою «роботу»

Провідник за проведення групи від 10 до 15 чоловік чистими понад $5000. Найбільша група нелегалів – 117 чо – робила спробу перейти польсько–український кордон у т 2000 року, і була затримана». Керівник тренування, комо Північно–західного напрямку прикордонних військ України, генер лейтенант Микола Йолтуховський заявив, що його підл «спроможні виконувати поставлені завдання, керувати служб бойовою діяльністю військових формувань у напруженій с яка виникає на кордоні щомиті».

Заступник Генерального військового інспектора при Ц України, генерал–лейтенант Анатолій Макаров висо та рівень фахової підготовки офіцерів управління, вони загальну оцінку «добре».

High-level opinion-makers to serve as panelists for UCPBF Roundtable

(UCPBF)—The Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation is organizing The Canada Issues Roundtable on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, Sept 16-17.

...l opinion-makers, serving as panelists and ...ble Chairs, will focus on three issues:

...nada/ Ukraine relations: strategies that work. ...to: Ambassador for Ukraine to Canada Dr. Yuri ...ak; Ambassador to Ukraine Derek Fraser; ...Freeland, Deputy Editor, Globe and Mail; Jim ...y, President Northland Power Corp.; Vice President CIDA for Eastern Europe, Peter Daniel; Eugene Czolij, President UCC; Chair, Bill Teron, President Teron International.

...nadian Diversity: the future. Panelists: Dr. Hedy ...Secretary of State for Multiculturalism; Senator ...ll Andreychuk; Scott Serson, President, Public ... Commission of Canada; Matthew Coon Come, Chief, Assembly of First Nations; Dr. Yarema Kelebay, Prof. Canadian History and Philosophy, McGill.

• Making Organizations more effective: national and regional perspectives.

"The purpose of the Roundtable is to influence Canada's agenda by working with the establishment. It has the power to address our concerns" says Oksana Bashuk Hepburn, President of the UCPBF. "To date we have excellent support from organizations in the Ukrainian community as well as leaders in the issue areas."

This important event is under the patronage of former Governor General Ramon J. Hnatyshyn who will be opening the proceedings. Commenting on the event he said, "I'm pleased that the Federation is taking the initiative to hold a national consultation on these important issues."

Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation
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September 16-17, 2000
Room 160S Parliament Hill, Ottawa

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Hollywood Trident Network prepares for the Fall

Film Institute, Palance Festival discussed

(...N)—A meeting of the Hollywood Trident Network, held on June 27, resolved to help film students in Ukraine get video copies of film classics which, according to Disney Executive Iya Labunka, are badly needed in Ukraine.

Members at the meeting agreed to look into what films are most needed and to follow up by sending copies to Ukraine once the most needed types are identified. A possible public appeal to send certain video copies to a Ukrainian film school could be forthcoming.

Apart from touching on this need in Ukraine, Labunka also described her life as a film studio executive working in production at Disney. She indicated there were about 25 executives doing work like hers at studios and described how she worked her way up the production ladder from scratch.

The meeting also discussed the formation of a possible film institute. Among the ideas put forward, creating such a film institute could be undertaken with USC, or UCLA, or both; and it could be something that could evolve into a "Harvard West" with a focus on the performing and visual arts.

Which an institute could have goals such as: film student exchanges with Ukraine, exchanges involving film professors, the creation of a web site involving a library of Ukrainian film classics like Zemlya, Tini Zabutych Predkiv, etc., a center that collects every ... of film footage and pictures relating to the Genocide of 1933, a web page that outlines the Ukrainian contribution to Hollywood — for example Jack Palance, Natalie Wood, Mike Mazurki, John Hodiak, Dmytryk, Alex Trebek, John Spencer, Mila Janvovich, Mila Kunis, Erica Eleniak, Michael Bolton, etc, a center that organizes a collection of video tapes for Ukrainian film students to learn from the classics of the West and arranges to send them to Ukraine for their benefit — while also finding web sites with instructions on script writing that can be downloaded in Ukraine, a center that organizes film festivals like the Jack Palance Film Festival or other classic Ukrainian film festivals, and a center that organizes film, performing and visual arts students interested in Ukrainian affairs and currently at universities, etc. Comments on this theme are welcome and should be directed by email to "pwolansky@aol.com" marked Re: "Film Institute for Paul Wolansky"

The meeting concluded with an outline of the upcoming Jack Palance Film Festival to be held in Edmonton, starting Oct. 9.

It was reported that film festival organizers met with Palance recently to detail the coming event, which is gathering interest on a broad scale. The selection of movies to be shown and some of the extracurricular activities have been determined. Palance will display a few of his paintings and participate in a reading of some of his poetry as part of the festival presentations. He will have the opportunity to meet many in Edmonton's Ukrainian Canadian community. A gala banquet will bring much of Edmonton's whole community together to celebrate Palance's visit and his lifetime of accomplishments. Future exploitation of the festival at other venues remains to be seen.

Yushchenko proposes international JV for gas transit

(RFE/RL)—Prime Minster Viktor Yushchenko said in an August 16 interview with the Moscow-based ...I" that Ukraine could hand over control of its gas ...pipelines to an international joint venture on ...tions of a long-term concession.

According to Yushchenko, the joint venture could ...ated by Naftohaz Ukrayiny, Russia's Gazprom, ...other foreign oil and gas company.

...Gazprom would participate in the joint venture in exchange for writing off Ukraine's gas debt to ...n and for "investing other assets."

Yushchenko said the same day that his cabinet made no decision to allow the siphoning off of Russian gas transiting Ukrainian territory.

Yushchenko was commenting on reports in some Russian media saying that he had authorized the theft of Russian gas and on a statement by Dmitrii Rogozin, head of the Russian Duma Committee for International Affairs.

Rogozin said on August 15 that Russia may sue Ukraine in an international court for the continued theft of Russian transit gas, according to ITAR-TASS.

Pustovoytenko criticizes cabinet policies

(RFE/RL)—Former Prime Minister Valeriy Pustovoytenko has criticized the cabinet of Viktor Yushchenko for its agricultural and energy policies as ...for poor cooperation with the IMF, Interfax reported August 16.

Pustovoytenko said the recently announced government program to boost grain production in 2001 is ...diverting public attention from the poor harvest. According to Pustovoytenko, this year's harvest will be "much lower" than last year's.

He also slammed Yushchenko for not supporting the coal industry and for proposing to hand over part of the country's pipeline system to Russia as repayment of gas debts.

Pustovoytenko noted that the current government "has totally wrecked" Ukraine's cooperation with international financial institution, particularly the IMF.

"There were hopes that following Viktor Yushchenko's appointment [as prime minister] we would easily obtain IMF credits, but [the IMF] has nagged about irregularities that took place earlier," Pustovoytenko said.

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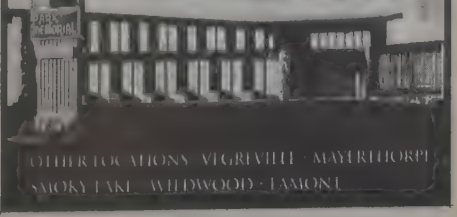

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Молодший СУМК успішно провів цей рік завдяки активній співпраці всіх двадцяти членів і трьох чудових порадників (Маріянни Базюк, Лесі Погорецької й Миросі Масло), а також багатьох активних батьків. Все, зроблене цією групою, було цікавим, принесло багато задоволення і збагатило та просвітило нас. Всі члени стали близькими друзями, з охотою чекаючи кожної наступної п'ятниці, коли всі сходилися. Ось перегляд роботи СУМКу за рік:

На початку року ми вивчили СУМКівський клич і гімн, який ми регулярно вживаємо. Ми були дуже задоволені одержати офіційні стрічки і заслуговувати різні відзнаки на них. Стрічки були освячені в катедрі св. Івана отцем протієреєм Степаном Семотюком і отцем Михаїлом Озимко під час спеціяльної молитви для СУМКівців.

Ми мали нагоду зблизька побачити прекрасний іконостас, почути пояснення отця Озимко про різні види хрестів і проводити релігійні дискусії.

Разом з батьками та старшими кухарками (бабцями) ми готували смачні вареники. Також було приємно виробляти й їсти смачні шоколядки з п. Фіоною Пелех.

У жовтні ми проводили приємний «Вечір Народної Казки».

Протягом року СУМКівці створили багато ручних виробів: тризуби, декоративний україн... кий прапор, вишивки, плетені декорації з шиш... й інші прикраси для Різдва. Дещо продавали... на спеціяльному базарі, щоб зібрати гроші... потреби групи.

Святкуючи українське Різдво, ми колядували... й пекли колачі з п. Анною Звоздецькою. ... український Новий Рік ми провели нашу вла... Маланку. Також у лютому ми весело ковзали... в парку.

Ми вчилися про українські символи, про кот... і Шевченка. Це було цікавою частиною на... СУМКівської програми.

Цього року наш молодший СУМК влаштов... у себе змагання в коченні куль (bowling), ... яке були запрошені інші СУМКівські групи... Едмонтону. Переможці здобули спеціяльн... трофей. Також в червні ми грали в бейсбо... копаний м'яч.

Під час Великодніх свят ми писали прекра... писанки. У нашій церкві ми сповідалися... приймали причастя.

В кінці нашого цікавого СУМКівського ро... ми зібралися на спільну вечерю.

В діяльності нашого молодшого СУМКу б... п'ять головних аспектів: провідництво, релі... культура, громадянство й історія.

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У Рівному – кредитний бу...

Володимир Конєв

(«День»)—Зниження ставки Національного банку з кредитуван... що спостерігається в останні місяці, вельми сприятливо відбил... на рівні кредитування в Рівненській області.

За перші шість місяців нинішнього року обсяг кредитів стано... 260 млн. грн. і зріс у порівнянні з тим же періодом минуло... року вдвічі. Загальна сума кредитів порівнянна з облас... бюджетом.

В останні тижні обсяг кредитів перевищує 50 млн. грн. В ... же час, незважаючи на «кредитний бум», керівники облас... філіалів банків вельми серйозно вивчають кожного претенде... на позику. Причина такої обережності – досить високий проц... неповернення коштів. За перше півріччя він виріс з 52,8 ... грн. до 70 млн.

Особливе занепокоєння викликає неповернення боргів підп... ємствами і сільгоспкооперативами. Зі слів начальника облас... управління НБУ Івана Чуха, багато керівників досі не усвідом... різницю між банківським кредитом і бюджетними асигнуванн...

Саме великий ризик кредитування стримує банки при в... позик реформованим КСП. З 3 млн. грн., виділених урядом ... компенсації процентних ставок по кредитах сільгоспвиробни... в області поки використана тільки третина. При цьому ... господарства в більшості своїй дуже потребують навіть неве... сум «живих грошей».

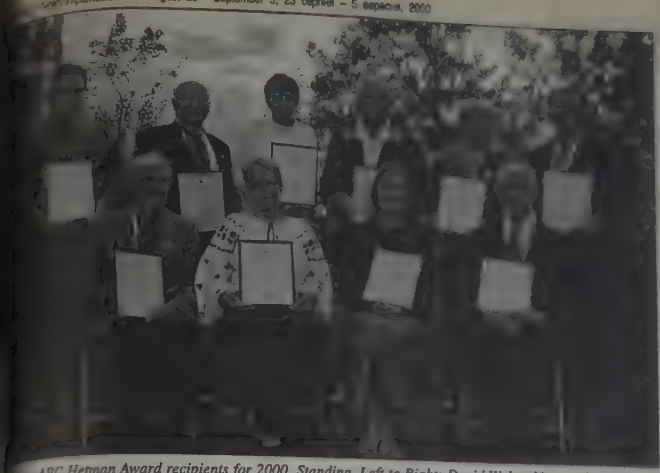
Цигани Закарпаття вирішили об'єднатися в «Братерство»

Василь Зубач

(«День»)—Цигани Закарпаття на своїй конференції, яка відбу... 7 серпня об'єдналися в Конгрес ромів «Праліпе» («Братер... Президентом обрали голову Товариства циган Закарпаття ... Йосипа Адама.

До речі, на V-му світовому ромському конгресі, який ... у Празі 24–28 липня цього року, Й. Адам був обраний де... Світового ромського парляменту від України. Він ... головною метою «Праліпе» ставить збереження і зм... міжнаціональної злагоди в регіоні, інтеграцію ромської сп... як рівноправної складової громадянського суспільства

Заступник ужгородського міського голови з соціяльних ... і правової роботи Андрій Сербайло назвав цю подію визначал... для «збереження і збагачення ромської культури, вклад... на рівноправних засадах до загальнокультурного простору Укр...



APC Hetman Award recipients for 2000. Standing, Left to Right: David Wolanski, grandson of Mary ...; Peter Dackiw; Josie Vantour, representing Marie Pastuszenko; Ivan Lahola; Walter Marych; Walter ... Seated Left to Right: Steve Sumka Sr.; Elsie Choban; Amanda Shuya; Walter Zarsky

UCC - APC honours 11 with Hetman Awards

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Alberta Provin... Council honoured 11 people with its Hetman ...ds for outstanding volunteer service to the Ukrai... Community at its annual Ukrainian day at the ...inian Cultural Heritage Village, August 13.

The people honoured were the following:

...ie Choban - Volunteer and executive member Two ... Ukrainian Dancers, charter member and execu... Alberta Ukrainian Dance Association, charter mem... ...d director Sopilka Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, ...tor Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Church, trea... ...r Ukrainian Women's Association (UWA), execu... Vegreville Psyanka Festival, charter member Vitrak ...inian Dancing Club.

...ter Dackiw - A POW in Italy, immigrated first to ...land then Canada in 1952. Joined the Ukrainian ...ion, and Association of Ukrainians in Britain. Ar... ...d in Edmonton in 1956, joined community organi... ...ns Narodni Dim, Ukrainian Youth Organization ...M), League of Ukrainian Canadians (LUC), choirs ...arodni Dim, Verkhovyna and theatrical ensemble ...Ukrainian Youth Organization. Executive positions ... UCC - Edmonton Branch and APC, including fi... ...al secretary for the Na Zdorovya project. Chair ...Ukrainian Community Council of Capital City Sav... and Credit Union, Delton Branch.

...n Lahola - Arrested in Ukraine by the German ...po in 1943, survived Aushwitz. Immigrated to ...da in 1948, active in Ukrainian community with ...s, Ukrainian Canadian Social Services (UCSS), ...nal Hall, Seniors Club, Ukrainian Catholic Broth... ...d of Canada (UCBC) and community choirs. ...tained contact with war prisoners-survivors and ...tive member of the Society for Ukrainian Politi... ...nsoners serving on the executive of several orga...

... Mary Lobay, C.M. - Founding member Shandro ...m, founding President of the Friends of the ...nian Village Society in 1985 and remains a life... director, member and chair of the Ukrainian Vil... Advisory Board, member St. John's UWA and ...er St. John's - Cathedral Sunday School.

...alter Marych - Past president of St. Josaphat's Ca... ...al UCBC past secretary of Eparchial Council ...C, past treasurer of UCSS and Canadian Immi... ...n Policy committee member, seven terms vice ... of Heritage Days Ukrainian Pavilion, executive ... - Edmonton Branch. Active in establishing the ...ynian Famine Memorial in Sir Winston Churchill

...ria Pastuszenko - executive member of Ukrainian ...olic Women's League of Canada, at local, diocesan and national levels, director, Vinok Dance Ensemble, adjudicator for Ukrainian language component of the 1985 Ukrainian Canadian Arts Festival, Saskatoon, advisor to Mayor of Edmonton on traditional Ukrainian dress for Ukrainian Centennial celebration.

Walter Rudko - Supported a wide range of projects and initiatives that helped to promote and prolong the Ukrainian community in Western Canada. Founding member of Centenary of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada, member of Centennial choir, executive member of Association of Ukrainian Settlers of northeastern Alberta, member of St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, Yaroslav, Cantor and leader of church choral music, secretary of Alberta Rose Historical Society.

Amanda Shuya - Student University of Alberta, counsellor of the OSVITA program at St. John's Institute. As Student Council President at St. John's, she has helped high school students improve their understanding of the Ukrainian language and culture, has contributed to resident life at the Institute by organizing events, running meetings, and being a positive liaison between staff and students, executive member of St. John's senior CYMK, active in both Edmonton and Calgary organizations and choir, dances with Ukrainian Shumka Dancers and teaches summer dance programs.

Steve Sumka - 50-year member of LUC, 48-year member UCBC and past vice-president, 28-year member Seniors Club past vice-president and past president , member Ukrainian Canadian Social Services and Pioneer Association of Canada. Major community contribution has been as a tireless fund raising volunteer with all community organizations.

Mykola Woron - A dedicated reader, established St. Volodymyr's Library in Calgary. Starting with a few shelves of tattered donations, it now numbers over 11,000 volumes, not including children's literature and periodicals. He sends duplicate copies of books he receives to Ukraine. Over 600 duplicates have been donated to the Ukrainian Cultural Centre in Victoria and many have been donated to libraries in Alberta. St. Volodymyr's received international recognition for publications in Ukrainian, Italian, Polish, Jewish, Chinese and English. The subject matter of these books relates to the culture and history of Ukraine and its people.

Orest Zarsky - Charter member of Royal Legion, Norwood Branch, director and fund raising for National Hall, member and officer of UCBC, member of Knights of Columbus since 1951, exemplified into the Fourth Degree, member of Fr. Dydyk Council, Bishop Greshchuk Assembly and Knights of St. Volodymyr, past director Bishop Budka Society.

Lviv Oblast to tackle environmental issues

...stern Economist)—The first Deputy Head of Lviv ...y State Administration Yaroslav Hadzalo headed ...ion of Oblast Commission on Technical, Envi... ...ntal Security and Emergency Situations, to dis... situation at a number of environmentally dan... sites, Aug. 15.

...pollution in the town of Boryslav from gas emis... ...measures installation of gas detection devices. The ...administration is to invest about Hr 100,000 in ...tive measures and the local budget will invest ... Hr 20,000.

...'s sewage system is overloaded, which creates ...as environmental hazard in the Stryj and Dnister river basins. The Commission estimated the costs of carrying out urgent repair work at over Hr 28,000. The funds are to come from the Oblast Reserve Fund.

The Stebnyk State Mountain Chemical Enterprise Polimineral urgently requires filling in of the mines, and draining of underground rivers. This situation has already resulted in a cave-in along the Lviv - Truskavets highway. Repair work will cost at least Hr 20,000.

The bridge across the Dnister in Ustya village, Mykolayiv district, is in very bad condition. Preparations for building a new bridge are underway. Lviv Oblast Administration is seeking investors for this project.

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З енциклопедіями сидять з переду: Марія Катрушенко, Зірка Решітник, Наталка Телішевська; стоять зліва на право: Андрій Таланчук, Данило Сірський, Роман Дзьоба, д–р Юлія Войчишин, Лариса Безначук–Смирнів, Олександра Прухницька, Олена Вайт, Софія Чировська та Олег Реплянський.

Матуральний вечір Курсів українознавства в Оттаві

Юлія Войчишин

Цього року Матуральний вечір Курсів українознавства при Школі ім. Лесі Українки відбувся 9–го червня в залі Nepean Sailing Club над річкою Оттава з гарним видом на різного рода вітрильників та човнів. Врочистості розпочалися Благодарним молебнем, який сослужили о. д–р Андрій Чировський і о. д–р Ігор Куташ.

Ведучий свята Олег Кандиба привітав присутніх та попросив всіх встати на вхід матурантів. Під спів "Gaudeamus Igitur" зайшли до залі одинадцятеро ґрадуантів – Лариса Безначук–Смирнів, Олена Вайт, Роман Дзьоба, Марія Катрушенко, Олександра Прухницька, Зірка Рашітник, Олег Реплянський, Данило Сірський, Андрія Таланчук, Наталка Телішевська і Софія Чировська, яких індивідуально представили гостям голова управи школи ім. Лесі Українки Мотря Мончак та керівник програми Курсів українознавства Христя Габрович. Вони підкреслили наполегливу працю цих учнів в щоденній школі, на Курсах українознавства та в молодіжних організаціях. Десятеро з них є членами юнацького пластового Куреня ім. Володимира Івасюка, а Наталка Телішевська належить до СУМ–у. Крім цього вони займаються музикою, танцями, спортом і навіть астрономією.

З черги, керівник програми Христя Габрович з учителями, – о. д–р А. Чировським (релігія), д–р Мирославою Біланюк (історія), Мотрею Мончак (мова, граматика, література) та Володимиром Катрушенком (культура), вручили ґрадуантам дипломи про закінчення Курсів українознавства та обдарували їх писанками виконаними спеціяльно для ґрадуантів славною оттавською писанкаркою д–р Оксаною Ярош.

Від учителів прощав матурантів Володимир Катрушенко. Він в першу чергу поставив питання: «Чому ми це робимо?» і відповідь його була: «…ми не можемо і не збираємося конкурувати з шаленою лявиною інформації, але ті духовні скарби, які передаються з покоління в покоління - історія, культура, традиції, релігія, завжди були і будуть тим міцним фундаментом ... І головне, що це вже настільки вкорінилося у нашу свідомість і підсвідомість, що ми не можемо цього не робити». Матурантів він похвалив теплими словами похвали «за те, що вони такі як вони є, зі своїми молодечими кловачками, відвертістю, амбіціями…» і висловив гордість того, що «ми не чули ні одного нечемного слова і вигуку», а це тому, що «наша система виховання, наше громадське суспільне життя працює», сказав він.

Щиро і з гумором дякували учителям Олександра Прухницька і Олег Реплянський. Від батьків висловив признання учителям та управі Курсів українознавства за їх надзвичайно солідну працю представник батьківського комітету Юрій Дзюба. Матуранти, в свою чергу, насвітлили прозорі сцени з життя на Курсах українознавства і весело. Оцінили працю матурантів і обдарування абітурієнтів такі інституції й організації:

– Катедра Українських Студій при Оттавському Університеті – передала привіт підпис координатором Іреною Белл і збірку статей конференції "Towards a New Ukraine";

– від Канадської Фундації Українських Студій привітала матурантів, член Ради директорів Юлія Войчишин. Вона сказала: «Як колишня довголітня учителька і директор Курсів Українознавства, я високо ціню Вашу і Ваших батьків посвяту і наполегливість та ґратулюю Вам успішне закінчення цих курсів. Як член Дирекції торів Канадської Фундації Українських Студій маю честь в імені цієї Фундації й Української Шкільної Ради, передати Вам 2–гий том п'ятитомної Енциклопедії в англійській мові в надії, що близькі Вам люди постараються придбати інші томів. Бажаю Вам квітучого майбутнього».

– від Кредитової спілки «Будучність» вручила грамоти випускникам представниця Надя Цюпа

– від Ліги Українських Католицьких Жінок привітали ґрадуантів Даня Попович і Оля Ш...

В Україні знижується тираж російської преси

(«День»)—Близько 200 тисяч примірників російської газети «Speed–инфо» завозиться в Україну без сплати податків, заявив 18–го серпня заступник голови Державного комітету інформації, телебачення і радіомовлення Віталій Абліцов на круглому столі «Розв'язання конфліктів в інформаційній сфері».

Комплексний аналіз того, чим торгують вокзальні кіоски преси, проведений Держкомінформполітики, засвідчив, що на їхніх прилавках переважають видання, доставлені піратським методом з Росії й частково Білорусі.

У той же час, зазначив В. Абліцов, знайти на тих самих прилавках пресу, видану в Україні, ...

Вихід Держкомінформполітики бачить один – якщо в подібної розважальної літератури з–за кордону є читач, то вона має завозитися ле...

Комітет готує матеріял до спільного засі... прикордонників, митників, податківців. ... могло розв'язати назрілу проблему. Це ... ження, яке проводилося в рамках вивчення ... преси України перед майбутнього перереєстр... друкованих видань, показало також чи... накладу московських видань в Україні.

Приміром, «Вісті в Україні» сьогодні ... наклад 8 тисяч примірників, «Комсомольська правда в Україні» щоденна – 60 тисяч, п'ятниця «товстушка» – 180.

А вивчення комітетом вітчизняного ринку ... ває. За його підсумками очікуються ... які насамперед торкнуться псевдодайджестів ... газет, і особливо видань, які розпалюють ... ціональну ворожнечу.

"Virsky — The Spirit of Ukraine" to premiere on PBS TV in Buffalo

by Wasyl Sydorenko

Recently, I had an exclusive opportunity to meet Canadian filmmaker Myroslava Oleksiuk-Baker and preview her latest film "Virsky — The Spirit of Ukraine." I was pleased to discover that this one-hour made-for-television production will be premiered Sept. 7, by PBS television station WNED Buffalo-Toronto (Channel 17, Cable 18) at the launch of its fall membership drive. This the first time that an artistic film featuring Ukrainian dance, music and culture will be featured on public television. And the key word is — artistic!

Oleksiuk-Baker wrote, produced and directed "Virsky — The Spirit of Ukraine." As a Ukrainian activist, she has often been involved in promoting a positive image of Ukraine, its people and culture. In this film she has achieved the perfect combination of narration, music and dance to capture the spirit of Ukraine. All the elements combine to create an emotional image of Ukraine — romantic, tragic, heroic, noble and beautiful. The language is universal, the audience — the world!

"Virsky — The Spirit of Ukraine" is not just a dance film. It is the story of Ukraine as expressed through the arts. The presentation is modern, including the filmography, editing, lighting and stage design. Dramatic moments are heightened by visual effects, dream-like lyrical sections touch us on a more intimate level and historic vignettes excite our curiosity. Universal themes such as tradition, life, love, war and nature bind the film to create a seamless vision of Ukraine, its people and culture.

In 1998 the filmmaker's husband Don Baker and brother Leonid Oleksiuk co-produced a North American tour of the Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company. All major cities in Canada and the United States were visited with rave reviews everywhere. Choreographer and ballet master Pavlo Virsky (1905-1975) founded the ensemble in 1937 and developed a new artistic style of dance based on folk tradition. Its influence on Ukrainian dance style has been felt worldwide. Today the ensemble is one of Ukraine's best cultural ambassadors to the world.

Myroslava Oleksiuk-Baker used the opportunity of working with the Virsky ensemble to create a cinematographic expression of her heritage. The production became a Canada-Ukraine collaboration with filming in both countries involving talents of both Canadians and Ukrainians. In addition to the Virsky Symphony Orchestra, Ukrainian film composer Volodymyr Huba contributed the musical interludes accompanying the film's narrative sections. Imbued with folk elements, the orchestral score creates an epic backdrop to the film's storyline.

For the upcoming PBS broadcast of "Virsky — The Spirit of Ukraine" the film has been reedited and augmented to include the artistry of violin virtuoso Vasyl Popadiuk and his brother Slavko. This should make the film a new experience for everyone.

There will be four broadcasts of the film — at 8:00 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 11:30 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. For more information, visit the film's official web site at: <www.virsky.com>.

PHOTO — ROMAN PETRIW

Virsky during their 1998 Tour.

Edmonton School of Ukrainian Dance to hold registration

(Edmonton School of Ukrainian Dance)—In 11 short years the Edmonton School of Ukrainian Dance has gained much recognition, leading Ukrainian dance in the community.

Experienced, competent and caring teachers are a essential key to the Edmonton school. Under the artistic directors of Ken Kachmar and Debbie Kachmar, instructors Sherri Yaremchuk, Shawn Ostafie and Jenny Komarnisky, the school will continue to specialize in child development, ballet, character, and Ukrainian Folk Dance.

Children are trained systematically and follow sequential curriculum. The Edmonton School of Ukrainian Dance has progressed in taking Ukrainian Dance into the next millennium. The school consists of over 300 students from ages three to 25 and once again looks forward to another successful year for 2000-2001. Registrations are held on Tuesdays, at the Vohon and Edmonton School of Ukrainian Dance Studios on 10629-98 St. The school provides hard wood floors with linoleum dance floor, mirrors and ballet bars. Parents can relax in the school's waiting room, during their children's rehearsal with a fresh cup of coffee.

The school also provides a costume director. Material can be provided for you or costumes can be sewn. All other character of Ukrainian costumes, props are provided by the school. If transportation is needed for a performance or competition it is all paid for by the school. Competition fees are paid by the school.

The dancers will enjoy dancing in many venues through out the year from festivals, competitions, concerts, etc. We must add in the School's Christmas party and Year-end Picnic where dancers and parents can enjoy themselves.

Dancers can take advantage of classical ballet classes, also offered by the school.

The best part about the school is that there is no fund raising or volunteer work involved. parents can relax knowing that they do not have to work a bingo on a weekend.

Registration will take place on Sept. 12, 5 to 7 pm and Sept. 19, 5 to 7 pm. at the studio 10629 98 St.

Vohon auditions will take place on Sept. 5, 7:00 pm at the studio.

The senior group performing at the annual Visions 2000 concert.

Briefly

Chornovil honoured posthumously

(RFE/RL)—Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has signed a decree posthumously granting the title of "Hero of Ukraine" to Vyacheslav Chornovil, a famous Soviet dissident and leader of the Popular Rukh of Ukraine, Interfax reported on August 22. Chornovil, who died in a car accident last year, was also given the Order of the State for "the significant personal contribution to the national revival of Ukraine, consistent promotion of the ideas of independence, [as well as] vigorous social and political activity."

Ukraine cuts debt to IMF

(RFE/RL)—In the first half of 2000, Ukraine reduced its debt to the International Monetary Fund by US$415.6 million to $2.257 billion, Interfax reported on August 15, quoting IMF data. Taking into account interest payments, Ukraine paid $476.8 million to the IMF from January to June. Ukraine is due to repay the fund $389.1 million in the second half of 2000, $605.5 million in 2001, and $301.8 million in 2002.

Population decrease continues

(RFE/RL)—The State Statistics Committee reported on August 9 that the Ukrainian population fell to 49.47 million from 49.71 million at the beginning of this year. The committee said deaths are outpacing births in the country by more than two to one. Ukraine's population has been declining steadily since independence in 1991, when it stood at 52.06 million.

Economics minister appointed

(RFE/RL)—President Leonid Kuchma on August 9 appointed Vasyl Rohovy as economics minister, Interfax reported. Rohovy was economics minister from April 1998 to January 2000, when he was appointed first deputy head of the presidential administration. Rohovy's predecessor, Serhiy Tyhypko, resigned in June and won a parliamentary seat in by-elections held the same month.

$33 M in humanitarian aid

(Eastern Economist)—Since the beginning of the year Ukraine received US$33 million worth of humanitarian aid. A representative of the State Customs Service stated the US sent $14.6 million worth of aid, Germany, $7 million; the Netherlands, $2 million; Denmark, $2 million; and Finland, $1.5 million. A total of 35 countries sent humanitarian aid to Ukraine, including Russia, Bulgaria, Belarus, Syria, Armenia, Lithuania and Australia.

Pension backlog to be cleared

(RFE/RL)—Premier Viktor Yushchenko on August 10 pledged that the government will repay all pension debts by Sept. 15, Interfax reported. This is the third consecutive promise by Yushchenko's cabinet to do away with the country's pension backlog, which on 1 July amounted to 478 million hryvni (US$$88 million). In February, the government said it will pay all pension arrears by the end of this year, while last month it promised to do that quicker, by Oct. 1.

Kuchma orders financing of military

(Eastern Economist)—President Leonid Kuchma ordered Premier Viktor Yushchenko to implement urgent measures to finance Ukraine's Armed Forces. The funds are for paying off government debts to the suppliers of foodstuffs, fuel and lubricants, electricity, natural gas, water and heat supply.

A Salute to Ukraine's 9-th Anniversary of Independence

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Sports

Ukraine aims to haul 20-25 medals back from Sydney

Bubka heads track and field squad

Compiled from reports in The Kyiv Post

The Ukrainian Olympic Committee expects Ukrainian sportsmen to earn 20-25 medals at the Olympic games in Sydney, UOC Head Volodymyr Herashchenko told ProUA, Aug. 8.

According to Herashchenko, their main hopes lie in track and field, swimming and wrestling.

Ukraine has promised to reward athletes US$50,000 for gold medals, $30,000 for silver, and $20,000 for bronze.

The Ukrainian team returned from the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta with 23 medals.

Six times world pole vault champion Serhiy Bubka will lead the 55-strong Ukraine track and field squad to the Sydney Olympics despite failing at his country's national championships.

Injury-troubled Bubka was guaranteed a place despite a disappointing showing at the national championships where he failed to clear his opening height.

The 36-year-old, who has been battling a serious Achilles' tendon injury for several years, recently said he would retire after Sydney.

On the women's side, the Ukrainians pin their hopes on world high jump champion Inga Babakova and Anzhela Balakhonova, who set a European pole vault record with a 4.56 metres clearance in Linz on Aug. 8.

Other familiar names include former 200 metres world champion Zhanna Pintusevich and 1996 Olympic triple jump champion Inessa Kravets, who like Bubka also had to overcome a serious Achilles' injury.

Kravets, 34, world record holder in the triple jump, also plans to compete in the long jump after leaping to 7.10 metres, the longest mark of the year, last month in Barcelona.

One spot on the Sydney team was reserved for world and European indoor shot put champion Alexander Bahach, who tested positive in February for an anabolic steroid, but has been cleared by the Ukraine Athletic Federation (UAF).

Bahach served a two-year ban for failing a dope test in 1988 and was also stripped of his 1997 outdoor world title after testing positive for the banned stimulant ephedrine.

In addition to the traditional sports for Ukraine, this year Ukraine's athletes will compete in the triathlon, synchronized swimming, trampoline jumps and mountain biking for the first time, Ihor Dontsov, head of the department for physical culture and sports of the State Committee for youth policies, sports and tourism told Interfax-Ukraine.

In 2000 "the team increased due to an increase in licenses. For example, Ukraine for the first time has obtained a license for synchronized swimming."

"Among Olympic sports, a new one has appeared — mountain biking; and the organizing committee allocated one place to Ukraine," Dontsov said.

Briefly

Zabroda named Olympic mission head

(Eastern Economist)—Ukrainian Olympic Committee appointed Vasyl Zabroda as head of the Olympic mission to Sydney, Aug. 10. Zabroda is the Deputy Head of the State Committee on Youth, Sports and Tourism. The Ukrainian Olympic team will depart for Sydney Sept. 7. The team has a total of 235 athletes, which ranks Ukraine in the top 20. They will represent Ukraine in 27 sports of the total of 39 at the games, and participate in 184 of the 300 events. For the first time, the Olympic squad has representatives from all oblasts.

Tereshchuk takes silver

Ukraine's Tatyana Tereshchuk won silver in the women's 400 metres hurdles with a time of 54.27 at the Heculis Golden League track meet in Monte Carlo, August 18. Irina Privalova of Russia took the event with the fifth-fastest time of the season, crossing in 54.06 seconds. Icelandic record holder Gudrun Arnardottir was third in 54.49.

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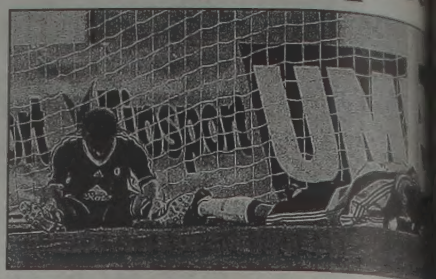
Shakhtar bounce Czechs for major upset

(UEFA)—Shakhtar Donetsk provided an early surprise in the UEFA Champions League Third Qualifying Round as a second half stoppage time goal from Andriy Vorobey, followed by an extra-time winner from Serhiy Atelkin provided the ammunition to eliminate SK Slavia Praha in front of their home fans at the Strahov stadium, August 22, and give the Ukrainians a deserved place in the First Group-Match Stage of the competition.



SK Slavia Praha 'keeper Radek Cerny (right) and Libor Koller lie in spair as Shakhtar level. (Reuters photo)

Vorobey scored in the second minute of second half stoppage time when he pounced on Slavia 'keeper Radek Cerny's error to stroke the ball home and thus erase the Ukrainians' 1-0 deficit from the first leg match. Then Atelkin added the decisive second goal seven minutes into the first period of the extra time, collecting Anatoliy Tymoschuk's cross from the right and slotting the ball past Cerny with a low drive from 10 metres.

Shakhtar were in control throughout the entire match, squandering a string of chances prior to scoring its two goals, while Slavia created little in front of goal and thus lost their chance to qualify for the UEFA Champions League for the first time in their history.

The visitors had a goal disallowed after 27 minutes after Vorobey was adjudged to have strayed offside, and ten minutes earlier the same player had a chance to open the scoring from close range, but he was unable to connect with Vitaliy Abramov's centre. Cerny then turned Mykhailo Starostyak's goalbound shot behind on the half hour, before Slavia responded when Starostyak and Shakhtar 'keeper Yuriy Virt got their wires crossed, but Ludek Zelenka was unable to take advantage from the acutest of angles.

Ivo Ulich, who scored the only goal of the first leg, was then presented with a chance to give Slavia the lead two minutes before the break, but Virt advanced from his line quickly to deny the Czech international. However, Shakhtar still had time to create another serious scoring chance prior to the interval, when Hennadiy Zubov crossed into the area, only for Cerny to p[illegible] Abramov's subsequent effort.

Shakhtar's attacking verve cont[illegible]ued upon the restart, and Vyach[illegible] Shevchuk's solo run two min[illegible] into the half ended with a 25-m[illegible] shot that Cerny saved. Th[illegible] Shevchuk popped up again in [illegible] 62nd minute to provide a danger[illegible] cross from the left wing aimed [illegible] Vorobey and Atelkin, but neit[illegible] striker could profit.

The Ukrainians again had the [illegible] in the back of the net when Po[illegible] had a goal disallowed in the 7[illegible] minute and though their chance [illegible] equalize seemed to be ebbing aw[illegible] there would still be time for them [illegible] find the target when it mattered [illegible] Slavia finally succumbed.

Dynamo disappoint in front of home faithful

(UEFA)—Dynamo Kyiv failed to inspire their home support as their UEFA Champions League Third Qualifying Round first leg match versus Yugoslav champions FK Crvena Zvezda ended in a disappointing scoreless draw.

The match was off to a slow and scrappy start until in the 17th minute when Goran Drulic's shot hit the post from Mihailo Pjanovic's pass, before a surprise break shortly afterwards looked to have put Dynamo ahead.

Celebrations were shortlived though as English referee, Dermot Gallagher, ruled the goal out for having been scored offside.

But a similar fate befell their opponents soon after as the referee again ruled that a goal should not stand. The visitors then continued to dominate the first half with Ivan Gvozdenovic having the best chance to score only to shoot over Viacheslav Kernozenko's goal when well-placed inside the Dynamo penalty area.

The Ukrainians came out for the second half in [illegible] much more determined mood but continued, Ma[illegible] Shatskikh in particular, to fall foul of the offside [illegible]tics employed by Crvena Zvezda.

Dynamo had a chance to go ahead with a free-ki[illegible] in the 60th minute, but Artem Yashkin's shot bounc[illegible] off the far post and was swiftly cleared by [illegible] Yugoslavs.

The home side came close again in the 67th minu[illegible] when a free-kick was awarded following a foul by Sl[illegible] Glogovac, but Dynamo failed to take advantage wh[illegible] Valiantsin Bialkevich's effort cannoned off the w[illegible] Dynamo's best chance of the night came in the [illegible] minute when a powerful shot from Aliaksan[illegible] Khatskevich rebounded off the far post, and then in [illegible]dying seconds Yashkin's free-kick flew over the bar [illegible] the match ended goalless.

Hryhoriy Surkis new FFU president

(Ukrainian Soccer News)—The Congress of the Football Federation of Ukraine elected thre honorable president of FC Dynamo Kyiv, Hryhoriy Surkis, to the position of the president of the Football Federation of Ukraine, August 16.

The previous FFU president Valeriy Pustovoytenko withdrew from contention. A total of 105 delegates voted for Surkis, two were against, two abstained.

The congress also elected FFU first vice-presidents: Victor Bannykov, Olexandr Bandurko, Serhi Storozhenko. Anatoli Bidnenko, Olexandr Volkov, Ihor Voronov, Borys Voskresensky, Olexandr Zinchenko [illegible] Volodymyr Lashkul became vice-presidents.

As he had promised, Surkis stepped down from [illegible] other post as president of the Ukrainian Professio[illegible] Football League and was replaced by Shakhtar vice-president Ravil Safiulin.

"I see my job as not to divide our football people [illegible] bring them together for the good of the game," Su[illegible] said.

During the Congress, Surkis offered a comprehe[illegible]sive program of Football development in Ukraine.

NBA Lakers sign Ukrainian forward

Stanislav Medvedenko, a 6-foot-10 forward who was a member of the Ukrainian National Team since 1998, signed a contract with the NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers on August 15, reported the Associated Press.

Medvedenko, 21, has played professionally in both Ukraine and Lithuania, most recently averaging 20.0 points and 6.1 rebounds in eight games, helping lead BC Kyiv to the Northern European Basketball Leag[illegible] championship.

Medvedenko is the first European-born player to [illegible] with the Lakers since 1989. However, he is the th[illegible] Ukrainian player in the NBA, reports the Easte[illegible] Economist. Medvedenko has yet to pass medical [illegible] after which the contract will be finalized and signed.

A straw slipping away

An entrepreneur needs a license for his every step

Business

By Yuliya Shaida, *The Day*

What rankles businesspeople starting out is the number of governmental institutions one has to go through to get a license to do business and the mountain of supplementary documents that has to be obtained. This is shown by a study done in Ukraine by the International Financial Corporation. The price to be paid for licenses is no cause for joy either. What is more, one has often to pay it several times if the a firm expands the territory of its business.

The License Chamber has drawn up a bill designed to finally bring some order to the situation. However, the bill increases the number of entrepreneurial activities subject to licensing from 54 to 80, and its not clear yet all whether it will become a panacea for entrepreneurs.

According to License Chamber Chairman Serhiy Tretiakov, the existing system of permit granting includes almost 350 various documents. Some of these are to be partially amended, but most will be canceled. As a result, Tretiakov hopes to limit the number of activities subject to licensing and make a license "the only permission-granting document." At first glance, a bill like this would seem virtual salvation for downtrodden business. However, things are not that quite that simple.

First, according to Tretiakov said, when being debated in Verkhovna Rada, the bill "will most likely see an increase in the number of activities subject to licensing." It is impossible to say now to what extent it will increase, but the very fact will hardly cause entrepreneurs to rejoice. In addition, if a license has been issued by a local executive body, it will be only valid for that one oblast, and to work in a different region, one will need another license and, of course, at full price. Incidentally, the license fee remains unchanged.

No one is advised to lose his/her license, for the bills pulls no punches about such people: "To issue a new license in lieu of a lost, spoilt, or damaged one, a fee shall be charged in the amount and order stipulated for granting the license. If the fact of losing a license has been revealed while the economic entity was being audited... an administrative fine shall be imposed, in the amount of five tax-free minimum individual incomes." Simple mathematical calculations show that it is far cheaper to lose while undergoing an audit."

The License Chamber is trying to get top priority for its bill, which will might make it possible for a new licensing procedure to take effect on January 1. Tretiakov is convinced that, by adopting the law, "we will come significantly closer to European standards and make a crucial step toward removing the unnecessary regulation of Ukrainian business." Will this make entrepreneurs feel more at ease?

Vancouver firm to investigate Crimean oil and gas deposits

(UkrNews)—Vancouver-based Bargold Resources Ltd. has entered into a standstill agreement, dated August 17, with CrymGeologia the State Geologic Enterprise of Crimea.

Bargold plans to investigate and conduct due diligence with a view to establishing a joint venture activities agreement with CrymGeologia.

CrymGeologia owns a 100% interest in Karlavske, mineral license and existing works comprising of an Oil & Gas deposit on three separate horizons.

CrymGeologia has carried out advanced geological as well as advanced seismic studies on the property. According to CrymGeologia, the property currently has Oil & Gas reserves on all three horizons with Gas on horizons numbers one and three and Oil on number two.

A total of 14 wells are currently in production on the license, with 13 producing gas and one producing oil, as stated by CrymGeologia.

Budget revenues up 52%

(Eastern Economist)—The increase of revenue to the expected budget within first six months of 2000 was 52% more than the same period of time in the previous year, said Ukrainian Premier Viktor Yushchenko, Aug. 21.

He said that the first half of the year gave Hr 88 million of surplus to the budget. Yushchenko noted Ukraine's stability over the last six months, which is shown by the decrease in the discount rate from 29% to 27%.

Since the beginning of the year, banks accumulated Hr 1.6 billion showing the high level of trust people have in the government's monetary policy. Ukrainian banks issued Hr. 4.2 billion of credits into Ukrainian economy, which is the highest volume in last several years, said Yushchenko.

He also noted that the 2001 budget will also be balanced. Yushchenko also expressed his satisfaction with the process of privatization saying he was "confident that by the privatization program for this year will be completed."

Naftohaz won't create JV with Itera

(RFE/RL)—Naftohaz Ukrayiny has said it will not create a joint venture with Itera, an international gas transport company that is believed to have strong links to Russia's Gazprom.

Previously, the Ukrainian company had announced it would go ahead with such a venture.

UNIAN quoted an Itera representative in Ukraine as saying that Naftohaz had come under pressure from other dealers in the oil and gas market that do not want the number of brokering companies to decrease.

The planned joint venture, according to that representative, would have eliminated several hundred small gas traders.

However, the Moscow-based "Kommersant-Daily" reported the same day that Ukraine wants to buy Turkmen gas directly from Turkmenistan and needs Itera only as a shipping company, not as a broker.

Cabinet to support coal industry

(RFE/RL)—Deputy Prime Minister Yuliya Tymoshenko told the Trade Union of Coal Industry Workers on August 12 that the government will soon earmark 55 million hryvni (US$10.1 million) to support domestic coal mines and 25 million hryvni to buy coal from them for power plants, Interfax reported.

Tymoshenko also said that in September the government will be able to pay in cash for all coal purchased from domestic mines for electricity and heat- generating plants.

Last month, the government selected 15 Polish and Russian companies to deliver coal to Ukrainian power plants for this winter.

It is estimated that by the end of the year those plants will buy a total of some 3 million tons of imported coal worth 400 million hryvni.

International satellite testing facility planned in Crimea

(Eastern Economist)—The government will set up, within six months, a working group to prepare an innovative project aimed at creating an international satellite testing facility in Crimea.

The project is to be drawn up by scientists of the Evpatoria space navigation control centre and the Karadak centre of the Crimean Academy of Science.

The work group is to consider attracting domestic and foreign investors to support the project. The government appointed Volodymyr Shary, head of the National Research Centre for Defense Technologies and Military Security, to monitor the work of the group.

Briefly

Foreign investment up 58.6%

(Eastern Economist)—Foreign investors injected a total US$420.1 million into Ukraine's economy in the first half-year of 2000. This is 58.6% more than in the same period last year, according to the State Statistics Committee. SSC also stated the total volume of foreign capital invested by non-residents as of July 1, was $3.596 billion. Furthermore, non-resident capital was $221.2 million in the second quarter of this year, up from last year's $117 million.

GDP grows by 5 %

(Eastern Economist)—The State Statistics Committee reported on August 14 that in the first seven months of this year, Ukraine's GDP increased by 5 percent, compared with the same period last year. The government expects GDP to rise 2 percent this year. Last year's GDP shrank by 0.4 percent.

Industrial production up 16.1%

(Eastern Economist)—Industrial production in July was 4.2% more than in June and 16.1% more than in July 1999, stated the State Statistics Committee. Since the beginning of the year industrial growth was 11.7%. Production increased in all major sectors except for fuel and construction materials.

Ford finishes AvtoZaz audit

(Eastern Economist)—US automaker Ford, which recently won the right to purchase failed Korean automaker Daewoo, has finished auditing the Ukrainian-Korean Joint Venture Avto-ZAZ-Daewoo. Though the Americans were surprised to find three times as many employees at the plant than at a comparable US facility, Ford executives felt that the plant could be used to produce an inexpensive "people's" car to be assembled in Ukraine for the domestic market and for export to Russia and the CIS.

EBRD launches new credit line

(Eastern Economist)—According to an Aug. 21 press release, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development will launch a second credit line for small and medium enterprises worth US$88 million following the signing of agreements with the government and the National Bank of Ukraine. "Small, medium and micro-sized enterprises form the backbone of a vibrant market economy," said EBRD Senior Banker Anne Fossemalle. Since beginning work in Ukraine in 1993, the bank has committed over $900 million to projects in Ukraine.

Grain yield down

(Eastern Economist)—As of August 14, 17.8 million tons of grain at an average crop yield of 20 cent/ha had been threshed. The yield is slightly down on last year's 21.5 cent/ha. Only 8% of grain crops remain to be harvested. Only Kyiv oblast gathered a larger harvest than last year. Of the forecast 11.2 million tons wheat harvest, only 20% will be used for food. Yet, as annual demand is about 5-6 million tons, this suggests Ukraine will become a big wheat importer this year.

Government to boost grain output

(RFE/RL)—Premier Viktor Yushchenko said on August 15 that "within seven to 10 days" the government will adopt a program to stimulate next year's grain yield, Interfax reported. According to Yushchenko, the program will provide for gathering 35-40 million tons of grain. "This is [an ambitious objective] but absolutely realistic, according to conclusions and data from the Agrarian Policy Ministry," Yushchenko said. This year's grain crop in Ukraine is expected to total some 25 million tons.

Changes to AMC law signed

(Eastern Economist)—President Leonid Kuchma signed changes to the law on the Anti-Monopoly Committee, Aug. 15. According to the changes, the deputy heads of the AMC and its representatives are appointed and dismissed by the President on submissions by the Premier. The previous version of the law required parliamentary approval for these positions.

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Migrants to West create disaster for all concerned

By Lily Hyde

(RFE/RL)—In halting English, the Chinese woman says her name is May Lin, and she is 23 years old. Her group of 15 migrants was stopped by Ukrainian border guards, and she is now in a detention camp in the West Ukrainian town of Mukachevo.

"I'm very unhappy here," she says. "I miss my boyfriend." She can't or won't explain how she got to Ukraine, but she says she was on her way to England to join her parents. She is one of more than 3,000 illegal migrants detained this year in Ukraine by border guards.

She will spend a few days here while the guards try to question her, but there are no translators who speak Chinese, or even English. Soon she will be put on a train to Kyiv, and no one knows what will happen to her after that.

With borders on seven countries, including three European Union candidate countries, Ukraine is a key link in the routes taken by millions of migrants heading for the West. Vasyl Gubko, head of the border guard's department for illegal migration, spoke to RFE/RL about the scale of the problem.

"Most citizens of Asia and Africa going to Europe go through Ukraine. It's a disaster for our country and for the countries they are going to, as well as for the migrants themselves. You shouldn't think it's easy for them."

The International Organization for Migration estimates there are around half a million illegal migrants in Ukraine, and up to 2 million in Russia. Where earlier they came in twos or threes, now border guards have caught groups of over 100. They travel in secret compartments in buses or trucks, or are armed with sophisticated fake documents and passports.

These people have paid from $3,000 to $10,000 to international organizations to smuggle them to the West. Ukrainians, especially in the depressed western border towns, are cashing in on the flood and finding new jobs as guides and organizers of illegal border crossings. But the Ukrainian authorities are woefully unable to cope with Ukraine's new role as an international transit hub.

Unlike neighboring Belarus, where President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has simply announced his country will let through migrants heading for Europe, Ukraine is trying to stop them. Border guards halted over 14,500 last year. But the authorities simply don't know what to do with the illegals. They have nowhere to keep them, no resources to question them, and they can't afford to send them home.

Most are sent to a hostel or a dismal tent camp provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which also provides food and basic health care. But after a few days here, the migrants are turned loose to find their own way home, as no one provides the funds to deport them.

As a result, they stay in Ukraine until they can find enough money to once again attempt the border crossing. Border guards have seen the same faces five or 10 times. Border guard official Gubko said:

"We law enforcement authorities don't have the money to keep them. They speak strange languages like Urdu and we can't communicate with them at all, we have no language specialists. We understand their situation — sometimes they can get stuck in transit countries for several years, having families, babies on the way."

The West has done little to help Ukraine stop migrants. The EU has poured money into border management of its candidate countries Poland, Slovakia, and Hungary. But Ukraine has received no aid, although Gubko says the migrants are, ultimately, the West's problem.

"This problem of illegal migrants is of mutual interest to us and for the West. It isn't profitable from the political or economic side, even socially, for Ukraine to be a springboard for illegal migration. We understand that it's already happened, and as time goes on, more and more illegal migrants who can't get to the West will stay in Ukraine. It will be our problem — it is already. But from the other side, we get these illegal migrants because they are trying to go to Germany, France, England. Here we are taking on their problems. Very often we stop people who don't even know what country they are in, who don't know such a country as Ukraine exists before we stop them."

The International Organization for Migration is trying to persuade the West to pay attention to Ukraine — but by focusing on its eastern border with Russia and Belarus, rather than its Western borders. J. Stephen Cook is the IOM's top official in Ukraine. He explains why the IOM considers this strategy more effective.

"The West's strategy and the EU strategy has been to put in huge resources into the candidate countries. But if you want to make that investment effective, then you need to expand your perimeter defenses — and those are Ukraine's.

Because once they get into Ukraine, it doesn't matter how much money you put into the borders of the candidate country, these people are going to get through one way or another because Ukraine doesn't have the capacity to get rid of them. They can stop them temporarily at their western border, but they have no capacity for detention and they have even less capacity for deportation, so they are just recycled. So every illegal migrant that gets into Ukraine never leaves until they eventually get to the West."

The IOM already has several eastern border projects which Cook says have been successful in at least diverting the flow of migrants to other areas.

Russia, however, has yet to show interest — as Russia also lacks the resources to deal with illegal migrants, it would prefer that those migrants get to Ukraine.

Ukrainian POWs on way home from Afghanistan

(Kyiv Post)—After 20 years of being prisoners of war in Afghanistan, two Ukrainian soldiers are returning home, Segodnia reported on August 9.

Soldiers Genady Tsevmo, from Donetsk oblast, and Alexender Levenets, from Luhansk, were located by the Ukrainian embassy in Afghanistan working with the Red Cross.

The Ukrainian government will fund their trip back to Ukraine. After arriving, they will receive minimum wage for a two-year period.

The Den newspaper reported that 72 Ukrainian citizens are currently missing in action or are prisoners of war in Afghanistan. According to the vice-president of the Afghan War Veterans association, Valery Oblizov, the number of missing Ukrainians constantly fluctuates and, at present, negotiations are taking place to bring back another eight Ukrainian POWs remaining in Afghanistan.

Ukraine to revamp education system

(RFE/RL)—The Education and Science Ministry has adopted plans to reform the secondary education system, Interfax reported on August 17.

The ministry proposes that the current 11-year education system be replaced by a 12-year one. Other changes include the introduction of a 12- grade scale for evaluating students' performance, instead of the current five-grade one, and the division of the school year into two "semesters" instead of the current four "quarters."

The ministry also decided to abolish, as of 2001, the system of preferences in university entrance exams for the so-called medalists, that is, those students who graduate with the highest grades.

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